FBIS DAILY REPORT

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SOVIET DELEGATE CRITICIZES WESTERN STAND AT MBFR TALKS

LD131013 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[Text] Vienna, 8 March TASS--A routine closed session of participants in the talks on the mutual reduction of armed forces and arms in central Europe took place in Vienna's Hofburg Palace today. It was addressed by N.K. Tarasov, head of the Soviet delegation.

As the Soviet delegation's press attache reported at a meeting with journalists, the head of the USSR delegation drew attention in the talks to the speech by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on 2 March of this year in Moscow, in which he put forward important new proposals aimed at deepening the relaxation of tension and consolidating international peace and security.

After reading out the political assessment of the state of the Vienna talks given in L.I. Brezhnev's speech, the Soviet spokesman stressed that it compels all the participants to give serious thought to their approach to resolving the problems of the mutual reduction of armed forces and armaments in central Europe.

It was noted that, sidestepping at present the discussion of cardinal questions of reduction and starting an artificial argument on methods of counting the sides' armed forces, the Western participants are deliberately trying to avoid an agreement. A quite abnormal situation has arisen in which the representatives of socialist countries are giving detailed explanations of the numerical strength of their troops, while Western representatives are stubbornly avoiding giving answers on the figures supplied by them. The USSR delegation called on Western participants either to substantiate their figures or to assume as a basis the official figures provided by the sides, and not to further delay the talks.

Such deliberate delays are particularly unjustified now, when as a result of the compromise proposals from the USSR, the GDR, Poland and Czechoslovakia on 8 June 1978, the sides' positions on the main questions at the talks have drawn closer together. The remaining differences arise from the desire of certain NATO countries to keep their hands free to build up their troops even beyond the present level and from their attempts to obtain unilateral advantages to the detriment of the Warsaw Pact countries' security. It was stressed that the socialist states will accept no unequal conditions, but if the West shows realism it will not require much work to overcome the remaining differences. It was noted in this connection that although it is 9 months today since the introduction of the June proposals, the West has still not replied. This again proves that the NATO countries are seeking to avoid an agreement.

The Soviet delegation also criticized the West's stubborn refusal to adopt the socialist states' proposal on not increasing the numerical strength of the sides' forces during the period of the talks.

It was noted in the speech by the head of the USSR delegation that opportunities for achieving success at the Vienna talks still remain and that the path to this end lies in the implementation of the socialist countries' June proposals. It is now up the the West.

The Soviet spokesman expressed the firm conviction that L.I. Brezhnev's accurate assessment of the state of affairs at the Vienna talks and his authoritative confirmation of the desire of the USSR and other socialist states to achieve a real reduction in the level of military confrontation on the continent will be an important stimulus to progress at the Vienna talks.

FRG DELEGATION TO VIENNA TALKS DEFENDS 'BARREN POSITIONS'

LD131206 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in German to Germany 1830 GMT 10 Mar 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] A discussion on security and disarmament questions is in progress in the FRG. Prominent politicians from the governing coalition and from the opposition have been drawn into this discussion. The latter are being particularly noisy. No small part in this is being played by the electoral considerations of the country's present political forces. What is the essence of these important questions? Giving detente material content depends on how these questions are solved.

Let us take the FRG's attitude at the Vienna negotiations on the reduction of forces and arms in central Europe. Bonn has not so far agreed to the participation of its armed forces in the reductions, and this over 5 years! One must not close one's eyes to that fact or to the fact that the heads of the West German delegation, Ambassador Behrens in the past, and now at the 17th round of negotiations Ambassador Jung have always defended the barren positions of the Western side which has not lead to any positive result. The essence of their position is an insistence on an asymetrical reduction--with an almost threefold advantage for the NATO countries--of land forces and tanks of the Warsaw Pact countries. Contrary to the existing facts, the Western side maintains that the East has some 150,000 more troops than the West. Western participants brandish bookkeeper's figures--and false ones at that--while simultaneously disregarding political decisions and fundamental qualitative values of the combat capability of contemporary armies, including military and technical norms, [word indistinct] battle readiness and so on.

At the same time, the fact that the Soviet Union has no intention of launching a blitzkrieg in central Europe is distorted. Over the past few years it has not increased its troops in this region by a single soldier or a single tank. The present balance of forces in this region is as follows: The socialist countries have at their disposal 980,300 men, 805,000 of whom are land forces; the NATO countries have over 981,000 men, 795,000 of whom are soldiers. The socialist countries have accomodated Western wishes to a large extent, and in June last year they stated that they had agreed [break in transmission]... and announced their intention to [word indistinct] reduction of land forces, and only the Soviet Union and the United States and in the first stage to limit the ratio to two against one in favor of the West. [sentence as heard]

The Eastern side is also in agreement with the reduction of types of weapons named by the West, including 1,000 Soviet tanks. The Warsaw Pact countries have thus demonstrated flexibility with regard to the wishes of the West and to the establishment of a regional balance of forces at a reduced level, but only under the condition of parity. The NATO countries have, as previously, not replied to this great compromise proposal.

The opponents of military detente realize that their position, no matter how well they may disguise it, is hypocritical, hopeless and dangerous for detente and for peace in Europe. They constantly invoke the specter of the Soviet threat, swear allegiance to the policy of detente and [passage indistinct]...defense, concoct fairy tales based on the same bookkeeper's arithmetic, and maintain that the FRG has made constructive efforts in calculating the numerical strength of the troops.

Bonn assumes an ambiguous position vis-a-vis the U.S. tactical missile. The FRG is prepared to agree to its deployment under the condition that other NATO countries make their territory available for the purpose. This was the subject of the big-four talks in Guadaloupe, and Brzezinski's assistant, Aaron, held talks in Bonn on the same subject. Will the FRG's position change? And will it participate in the achievement of military detente? The Social Democratic leaders are now making many (?correct) statements. They also did this in the past. In an interview for GENERAL ANZEIGER on 10 December, 1976, Willy Brandt stated that one must begin with two steps that were important in principle: first, reductions, if only symbolic, of U.S. and Soviet armed forces within the framework of the geographical sector agreed on in Vienna, to be followed by at least modest reductions in the national armed forces in the same sector. This statement was not strengthened by the position of the FRG delegation at the Vienna talks.

Helmut Schmidt recently stated in Roethingen that the first arm and then disarm philosophy could not be justified. But how can these words about the thesis of the parallel course of the negotiations on reductions be reconciled with the growth in armaments? It is the growth of armaments that is at the root of the real military policy of the FRG [words indistinct] and the decisions the Bundestag can take. One thing is clear: The stubborn adherence to the West's negative position at the Vienna negotiations threatens a loss of prestige and political influence as well as the belief in the ability of the ruling circles to guarantee the national interests of their own country. It is not a matter of loyalty of the FRG to the NATO partnership as the opposition maintains; the FRG can make its contribution to the cause of military detente in accordance with its weight and importance. This is all that is expected of it.

CEMA SECRETARY GENERAL FADEYEV HOLDS MOSCOW PRESS CONFERENCE

LD051626 Moscow TASS in English 1559 GMT 5 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 5, TASS--During the past thirty years the countries-members of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance have multiplied their economic potential many times over and moved up to a prominent place among the industrially developed states, it was stated by Nikolay Fadeyev, secretary of CMEA, at a press conference held here today.

While in the early fifties the CMEA countries accounted for only 18 per cent of world industrial output, today they turn out approximately one third of it, Fadeyev noted.

In 1978, as compared to 1970, the national income of CMEA countries increased 59 per cent, whereas in EEC states it grew 21 per cent. The gross industrial output of the countries of the socialist community increased during this period by 72 per cent and in the EEC countries--19 per cent.

Due to cooperation and fraternal mutual assistance, several CMEA countries have been turned from industrially-backward agrarian countries into states with an industrial economy, Fadeyev noted. They include Mongolia which is confidently advancing along the road of building socialism.

The CMEA countries' relations with other states are growing. During the past thirty years the trade turnover of CMEA nations with the developing countries increased 32-fold and with the advanced capitalist states 16.5-fold.

The successes of the CMEA nations evoke attacks of the enemies of socialism, Fadeyev said. They are making futile attempts to prove that integration allegedly infringes upon the sovereignty of socialist nations, that their relations are unequal. Particularly active in this respect is the Chinese press, the CMEA secretary noted.

CEMA'S MATERIAL SUPPLY GROUP ON RESOURCE UTILIZATION

LD201655 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "CEMA Committee Session"]

[Text] The ninth session of the CEMA Committee for Cooperation in Material and Technical Supply was held in Moscow 12 through 15 February. Delegations from Bulgaria, Hungary, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the GDR, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the USSR and the CSSR took part in its work.

Those taking part in the session noted the important significance of the creation of CEMA, whose 30th anniversary is being celebrated this year.

The committee examined questions on the implementation of measures under the long-term targeted programs for cooperation in the rational utilization of material resources, defined the priority directions of its further work and approved a number of joint developments aimed at improving the material and technical base of the CEMA countries' supply organs.

PRAVDA EDITORIAL DISCUSSES STRUGGLE FOR PEACE, SECURITY

LD141003 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Mar 79 p 1 LD

[PRAVDA editorial: "Our Goal Is Lasting Peace"]

[Text] Loyal to Lenin's behests, our party is waging a resolute and purposeful struggle for the sacred cause of peace. This noble struggle has won the country where communism is being built authority and the peoples' trust. The word of the Soviet Union in the international sphere acts as a reference point and an inspiring stimulus for people of good will; the enemies of detente have to heed the Soviet position, no serious politician can avoid reckoning with it.

There was a tremendous reaction in the world to the speech to the voters by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretaty of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, which raised the most important and urgent issues of the international situation. Foreign commentaries note the exceptional importance of the speech, the depth of the analysis of the situation in the world arena contained in it, the constructive nature of the proposed solutions and new proposals, and its calmness, optimism and confidence.

The fact that substantial successes have been achieved in practically all directions of foreign policy activity defined in the historic documents of the 24th and 25th party congresses evokes the profound satisfaction of the Soviet people and all firends of peace. Despite intrigues and attacks by our class and ideological opponents, confident, dynamic development of the world of socialism, the steady growth of its favourable influence on the international situation is one of the main distinctive features of the present epoch. Certain changes have been attained in curbing the arms race. The political climate in Europe has changed favourably in recent years. New victories have been attained by African, Asian and Latin American peoples striving for national and social liberation.

Meanwhile, there are great difficulties on the road of struggle for peace and security of the peoples. A broad campaign is under way against detente and disarmament, and the most reactionary forces of imperialism have lined up in this black deed. The Chinese leaders are increasingly teaming up with them. China's unprecedentedly impudent bandit attack on Socialist Vietnam revealed to the utmost the perfidious aggressive essence of their great-power hegemonist policy. This policy is a grave threat to world peace. Therefore, any form of complicity with this policy is extremely dangerous.

The Soviet people fully associates itself with heroic Vietnam. The unbreakable friendship of the two fraternal parties, countriesand peoples has stood the test of time for many years. And now the Soviet Union is true to the treaty of friendship and cooperation which binds it with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The Vietnamese people is waging a just struggle, and its just cause shall triumph.

In the international situation that has arisen, the CPSU Central Committee and the Soviet Government are exerting the utmost efforts to develop cooperation with the forces of peace, freedom and progress, to frustrate designs of the aggressive circles, to uphold and deepen detente. All this is being done to reliably ensure for our people, its allies and friends the chance to live and work in conditions of peace.

An end to the arms race, prevention of the threat of a world thermonuclear war is the most pressing, the most burning objective facing mankind. [paragraph continues]

The socialist community is making a very large contribution to this noble cause. New important initiatives in relaxation of tension, in the military sphere have been advanced in the declaration of the recent conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Treaty member-states.

The peoples are watching with great interest the elaboration of a new Soviet-American agreement on limitation of offensive strategic armaments. There is every indication that it is nearing completion. The conclusion of this agreement and its entry into force would raise a certain obstacle to the further stockpiling of the most destructive and expensive types of weapons, would signify the continuation of the process of curbing the arms race, and exert a favourable impact upon the international climate as a whole.

There are wide opportunities for strengthening peace, good-neighborliness and mutually beneficial cooperation in Europe. The historic all-European conference and its final act correctly determined the main paths for progress toward detente. Positive results can be observed in the political, economic and other spheres of mutual relations among the countries of the continent. The urgent task now is to extend detente to the military sphere and to agree on specific measures to lower the level of military confrontation on the continent. This is a feasible matter although as yet there are no movements in the corresponding direction. Take for example, the Vienna talks on the reduction of arms and armed forces in central Europe. The socialist countries' constructive proposals are well known. They have made it possible to narrow the gap between the sides' positions on the essence of the question and have opened up practical opportunity for agreement. It is now up to the Western participants in the talks who are avoiding responding to the constructive proposals and are obstructing the achievement of an accord under far-fetched pretexts.

A great impression was made on the broad international public by the new Soviet proposals put forward in Comrade L.I. Brezhnev's speech at the meeting of voters in Baumanskiy Electoral Okrug in Moscow aimed at strengthening mutual trust among states in Europe. These refer in particular to extending the existing practice of giving notice of military maneuvers. The idea of concluding a treaty between the participants in the all-European conference on renouncing the first use of both nuclear and conventional arms against each other also accords fully with the spirit of Helsinki.

There is no sphere in world politics in which the CPSU and the Soviet Government would not advocate the cause of justice, progress and peace. "Our global" policy, Comrade L.I. Br zhnev stated, "is lasting peace and security for the Soviet people and lasting peace and peaceful cooperation between all the world's states. And we will fight tirelessly to achieve this goal without stinting forces or energy."

The elections to the USSR Supreme Soviet once again clearly demonstrated the Soviet people's unanimous support for the CPSU's political course, of which the Leninist policy of peace is an inseparable component part.

CENTO CHANGES, U.S. EFFORTS TO REINFORCE POSITION NOTED

LD131758 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The Central Treaty Organization seems to be facing the prospect of serious trouble in the wake of Iran's and Pakistan's withdrawal from this organization.

In recent years Great Britain, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey were the CENTO members. Though officially the United States was not a member of this grouping, it actively influenced its policies. The two sponsors of the bloc--that is the United States and Great Britain--tried to use the organization as an instrument for preserving their economic and military positions in the region. They planned to use CENTO against those countries which sought to pursue independent policies, especially in the field of oil extraction and sales.

With that purpose in mind, repeated attempts were made to extend the zone of CENTO's activities and to draw more countries into it. However, those plans failed to materialize. Iran, which played the role of conductor of the imperialist interests in CENTO, has now declared that it refused to perform the functions of a policeman imposed on it by Washington. The announcement was made following the revolutionary changes that recently took place in the country. Iran's new foreign policy line is incompatible with CENTO membership.

At present, those Western circles which used to put their stakes on CENTO are looking for ways to retain their positions in the Near and Middle East. They are hastily revising their plans. The United States seems to play a particularly active role. American diplomacy is bending every effort in trying to build a new regional grouping that would service the interests of the oil monopolies. The United States has now reoriented in the direction of Israel and Egypt which are to form a sort of nucleus in a new bloc. To safeguard the interests of the American monopolies, the United States is even ready to send its ships and armed forces to the Middle East. For the sake of this, Washington politicians are planning to deploy a new American fleet in the Indian Ocean that will have its base on the island of Diego Garcia. The public of the region is getting increasingly concerned over these plans. It regards them as an attempt to try to retain the imperialist positions in the region following the setbacks in Iran.

PRAVDA SCORES RUSSIAN CENTERS FOR ANTI-SOVIETISM

LD060728 Moscow TASS in English 0717 GMT 6 Mar 79 LD

["At the Service of Anti-Communism"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 6, TASS--The so-called "Russian centres", though they claim to be research institutions, in reality are not at all concerned with science, PRAVDA says today. The nature of the activity of many "Russian centres" shows that their main concern is ideological diversion, a fanning of anti-communism and anti-Sovietism.

Of late, "the network of 'Russian centres' has been expanded, embracing a large proportion of American universities. Parallel with this there has been an increasing intensification of the tendentiousness of their production, the desire to spread in every way anti-communist ideas and moods".

"The imperialist states exert big efforts for psychological warfare against the world of socialism. The desire to belittle the achievements of the Soviet Union and the fraternal socialist countries are the main motive of their propaganda. The successes of real socialism, however, the onward movement of the countries of the socialist community, the victorious procession of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism on our planet frustrate the attempts by Western ideologists to discredit socialism in the eyes of the peoples, to erect a barrier across its road, PRAVDA emphasizes. [quote marks as received]

UNITED STATES

U.S. DEMONSTRATING STRENGTH TO PRESSURE INDEPENDENT STATES

LD131931 Moscow in English to South and Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Nikolay Nikolayev commentary]

[Text] Official representatives of the American administration have reaffirmed their intention to escalate American military presence in the Indian Ocean area. Our observer Nikolay Nikolayev has this comment:

The well-informed American magazine NEWSWEEK has disclosed the details of the Pentagon plan. According to the magazine, the Pentagon plans to send the newly-formed 5th Fleet of the United States to the Indian Ocean. It will consist of an aircraft carrier, destroyers, and helicopter-carrying assault ships. American bases in Bahrain, Oman and Saudi Arabia will be used to service the ships of that task fleet. Besides, there is a plan to expand the American military base on the Diego Garcia Island. Long-range anti-submarine aircraft carrying missiles are expected to be deployed there. There are signs that the plan is already being put into effect. The American Defense Department has reported officially that three military ships of the American 6th Fleet have already been transferred to the Indian Ocean. The "Constellation" aircraft carrier is already bounding [as heard] in the same direction.

Representatives of the Pentagon try to justify the escalation of the American military presence close to the shores of Asian countries by the need to safeguard the sea routes across which the Arab oil is delivered to Western countries. There is much talk about an increasing Soviet military threat, but there are few who are prepared to accept the Pentagon's argumentation. The Indian PATRIOT writes that the purpose of the present demonstration of strength by the Pentagon is to exert pressure on Iran, India and other independent countries which refuse to submit to the American dictate. The paper recalls that in 1972 the American Navy sent 18 times its ships to the Indian Ocean with the purpose of demonstrating strength. The PATRIOT feels that the present Pentagon action is all the more dangerous since China, now openly siding with the imperialist reactionaries, is trying to use it for her own ends.

One can add to this that the Soviet Union is the initiator of Soviet-American talks on reducing military activity in the area of the Indian Ocean. At the talks the Soviet Union came out with a proposal to curtail the number of ships and planes now present in the Indian Ocean, give up plans for the construction of new military bases in the area and the expansion of the existing ones. The American side however failed to respond to that proposal. As soon as the talks entered a practical stage, the United States merely suspended them. The reaction of the public in the coastal countries was that of indignation.

The Mozambique paper NOTICIAS DA BEIRA writes that instead of looking for a new justification to the gunboat diplomacy the United States should follow the policy that answers the interests of peace and security of the nations.

PRC TROOPS MAY HALT WITHDRAWAL INSIDE SRV TERRITORY

LD132121 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] According to rumors in Beijing journalist circles, with reference to information obtained from diplomats, the Chinese troops in Vietnam will be withdrawn to a line which does not coincide with the border that has been historically established between the two countries. China intends to keep many dozen square kilometers of Vietnamese territory in this way.

PRC PLANS REBEL BASE IN BURMA-LAOS-THAILAND TRIANGLE

BK131056 Moscow in Burmese to Burma 1030 GMT 12 Mar 79 BK

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners: Reports from Rangoon say that Beijing-controlled rebels have become very active lately in northern Burma, which is mountainous and covered with jungles. According to a REUTER correspondent's report, the rebels are at least 10,000 strong and are armed with automatic weapons, machineguns and modern field guns. They have set up a base in the Shan State.

Observers have attributed this deteriorating situation to Beijing's increased arms and ammunition aid to the rebels. It also serves as a sign that Beijing will give further assistance to the rebels. Beijing is providing similar aid to the rebels in Thailand. It has been learned that fighting broke out in Nong Khai and other northern provinces in Thailand recently as the government tried to check the offensive of the rebels.

The upsurge in rebel activities in Burma and Thailand coincides with Chinese aggression against Vietnam and the massing of Chinese troops along the Lao border. These incidents are not accidental. They are a part of Beijing's strategy for dominating Southeast Asia.

China's attempt to invade Vietnam from the north encountered a bold resistance. Under such circumstances, Beijing plans to set up a base in the Burma-Laos-Thailand border triangle to attack Vietnam from the west as well as to send military assistance to Pol Pot's remnant troops who are still armed and trying to subvert efforts to normalize the situation in the Kampuchean People's Republic.

The Beijing authorities have demonstrated through deeds that they will do anything to achieve their goal. They do not hesitate to commit aggression "to punish" those who refuse to obey their orders. They have totally disregarded the principle that peoples of neighboring countries mutually respect each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The refusal of Southeast Asian governments to join China's anti-Vietnam and antisocialist line has angered Beijing. The recent meeting of the foreign ministers of ASEAN nations in Bangkok decided to pursue the principles of peaceful coexistence in dealing with the countries of Indochina.

Bangkok's NATION REVIEW, in reviewing the latest developments in Southeast Asia, criticized China for its dangerous activity. China is using Beijing-controlled rebels as tools to apply pressure on its neighboring countries and to create tension in this region. That is why the Burmese and Thai leaders, who met in Bangkok only a few days ago, gave special attention to suppressing the rebels.

COMMENTARY ASSESSES DENG XIAOPING-HUA GUOFENG POWER STRUGGLE

OW140509 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1000 GMT 13 Mar 79 OW

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Beijing's RENMIN RIBAO admits that "our party's unity has been seriously impaired." The division and estrangement among political structures at all levels is a chronic ailment of the present Beijing regime. This regime was built on the ruins of the democratic system during the destructive Cultural Revolution. From then on, its entire history has been one of conspiracies and intrigues, in which leaders were catapulted to high positions or repeatedly purged, and one of constantly changing and contradictory political policies.

It is not at all surprising that RENMIN RIBAO is now forced to alarmingly admit that there are factions and groups inside the party. The members of Mao Zedong's party and its leadership at all levels are now a mixture of all sorts. They include victims of the Cultural Revolution as well as organizers of that great destructive movement. In other words, they include Jiang Qing's followers as well as supporters of Jiang Qing's political enemies who seized power in autumn 1976.

The situation is beyond remedy because the confusion starts at the top party and government leadership. Hua Guofeng and Deng Xiaoping are the principal characters on China's political stage. They are the leaders of two powerful Beijing factions that are engaged in a ceaseless power struggle. Many observers hold that in the past few months Vice Premier Deng Xiaoping has greatly strengthened his position in the power struggle. On the other hand, he is still not in control of everything. Deng Xiaoping's old adversaries still occupy high positions in China's leading organs, and Hua Guofeng remains the highest party, government and army leader in China, at least in name.

What will be the ultimate outcome of this struggle within the top ruling clique in Beijing? It seems that many people in China are eager to find an answer to this question. Judging by reports in Chinese newspapers, many party and government cadres do not want to take sides in the struggle for the time being. Instead, they have chosen to wait and are hiding behind others. These people's motives are not difficult to understand. All signs indicate that the struggle within China's leading clique has intensified.

In the first few months of 1979, some major moves have been made within the top leading clique, forcing leaders at the provincial and even higher levels to publicly confess their mistakes. In various Chinese cities, many big-character posters have appeared, very possibly on orders from above, to attack high-ranking state leaders by name.

Foreign newspapers and magazines have disclosed that the supreme party organ in China has issued a secret circular to absolutely trusted cadres. The circular, among other things, says that the Chinese forces are unable to fight a modern war in Vietnam and that someone will surely be held responsible for this serious (?mistake). Some observers believe that the one who will be held responsible is Deng Xiaoping, chief of the General Staff of the Chinese Armed Forces and the (?chief advocate) of Beijing's now bankrupt aggression and adventure in Vietnam.

CCP Situation Unstable

OW131554 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0900 GMT 13 Mar 79 OW

[Text] The situation within the Chinese ruling party is still unstable.

RENMIN RIBAO admits this while calling for solving differences and friction among party members. According to the paper, many party members want to take revenge on personal enemies, refuse to admit past mistakes and form small factions.

The paper calls for the elimination of these mistakes and factional struggles and points out that it is necessary to have a situation of unity in order to fulfill the four modernizations.

Observers believe that the call made by the paper indicates an attempt by the ruling regime to escape criticism for their failure in the Vietnam military adventure by using the pretext of maintaining a situation of stability and unity.

It is also reported that not only the common people but also a large number of personnel in party and government organs have become more and more discontented with the Beijing leadership for plunging China into a shameless war of aggression.

PRC WAR CRIMES, DENG'S ROLE DISCUSSED

OW140619 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin 1100 GMT 12 Mar 79 OW

[Glebov commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners: On 21 March 1951, 28 years ago, the Supreme Soviet adopted an act aimed at preserving peace. This act stipulates that anyone guilty of crimes in promoting war propaganda should be treated as a serious criminal case and should be tried through legal proceedings. But no such act is in force in China today. Even if this kind of law is drafted by someone in China, it would not be approved by today's Chinese rulers. However, if such an act existed in China today, Mao Zedong and his close followers and successors would be certain to be the first facing court trial. Mao Zedong once said that war was a game in which he specialized. During the 1957 congress of communist and workers parties, he tried his best to convince other delegates to the congress that they should not fear a nuclear world war even if it would cost half of the world population, because at the end of the war imperialism would be totally wiped out and socialism would emerge victorious. But the fact is that Mao Zedong never tried to eliminate imperialism and win victory for socialism.

Mao Zedong's successors represented by Deng Xiaoping and company seem far superior to their master in many ways. Deng Xiaoping even tried to convince the world and the Chinese peoples that a world war is a good thing. Deng Xiaoping and company have supported the anticommunist and reactionary cliques in the imperialist countries in every possible way in order to hasten the arrival of a nuclear war. They have encouraged the latter to take high-handed measures and resort to all means to create tension throughout the world, and to prevent the world from moving forward along the path of detente.

During his U.S. trip, Deng Xiaoping vowed on various occasions to teach the Vietnamese people a bloody lesson. Following his return from the United States, nearly half a million Chinese troops immediately made incursions into SRV territory with the support of hundreds of tanks, aircraft, heavy artillery, rocket and mortar fire. The top echelon ruling clique in Beijing self-confidently believed that this vast invading Chinese Army could swiftly conquer Vietnam and report its victory back to Washington in a matter of 2 to 3 days. But things did not develop that way.

The Vietnamese border defense units and militia and regular troops resolutely hit back at the aggressors and inflicted heavy casualties on the Chinese troops that were penetrating deep into Vietnam. During that 3-week-old war, the Chinese troops suffered a loss of nearly 50,000 officers and men.

True, this number, compared to the huge Chinese population, is very small in the words of Mao Zedong and his followers. This number means a lot to the beloved ones of the Chinese soldiers who died and were wounded in Vietnam. Furthermore, those wounded Chinese soldiers could not even receive medical attention while in Vietnam, and some of them were even killed by their officers, a fact which would shock anyone. According to reports, once they returned home from Vietnam, the Chinese soldiers taking part in the aggressive war were ordered to talk neither about their barbarism nor about the heroism displayed by the Vietnamese people. They were even warned that they would be executed if they violated this order. But this cannot be covered up. Like an old Chinese saying: "Paper cannot be used to contain fire."

A wave of protest against the unpopular policy of aggression pushed by Deng Xiaoping and his followers has been sweeping across China. The fact that a growing number of big-character posters and leaflets against Deng have appeared in Beijing and other major cities of China testifies to this. One of the posters says: Deng Xiaoping [words indistinct] show no respect for the lives of the Chinese people. This is the why he wanted to mount an aggression. He should not be permitted to continue playing his dirty tricks, nor should he be allowed to continue to bring shame and humiliation to the entire Chinese nation by sending the sons of the Chinese people to die. Vice Premier Deng should be publicly tried by the people.

VEKOV COMMENTS ON PRC'S DESIRE TO BUY U.S. ARMS

LD122302 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

[Oleg Vekov commentary]

[Text] The New York TIMES, quoting well-informed sources, reports that China intends to buy a large consignment of military aircraft in the United States. Accordingly, Beijing is shortly to make an official request to Washington that it consider this matter and take a decision on it. Here is what Oleg Vekov writes:

It appears from the New York TIMES report that China is interested in the Lockheed manufactured Hercules transport planes and Orion antisubmarine planes. From another American concern, McDonnell-Douglas, the Chinese military establishment would like to purchase F-15 Eagle fighters.

As you see, Beijing has quite an appetite for American weaponry. In this context it seems appropriate to quote something a Lockheed spokesman said. According to the New York TIMES he said his company had offered the Chinese a civilian version of the Hercules transport, but the Chinese had replied they wanted precisely the military model. In short the Chinese have adopted a hard buy attitude and, as the New York TIMES indicates, are determined to have the matter settled in their favor. The Beijing arms buyers don't seem embarrassed in the least by President Carter's ban in principle on the sale of arms to China. The paper believes, however, that the recent normalization of relations between the two countries could help to surmount this ban. One thus gets the impression that in the United States, as for that matter in Britain, certain circles intend to take part in modernizing the Chinese economy and they are shutting their eyes to the fact that this modernization, so-called, in effect amounts merely to arming China.

This is confirmed, for example, by the attitude of London, which has guaranteed Beijing credits running to $5,000 million for the purchase of industrial goods in Britain. This includes credits for buying Harrier vertical takeoff fighters which Beijing has made it clear it intends deploying on its border with the Soviet Union. The British newspaper GUARDIAN has also pointed out that the Harriers would serve the Chinese expansionists to support their claims to islands off the shores of Vietnam, against which China is engaged in large-scale aggression, and to dominate the sea lanes between Tokyo and Singapore.

To sum up, the proposed deals involving the sale of American arms to China disclosed by the New York TIMES are obviously dangerous. More thought should clearly be given in Washington to actions that connive with and encourage the Chinese dragon.

BEIJING TRYING TO BECOME MILITARY SUPERPOWER

OW140530 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0900 GMT 13 Mar 79 OW

[Alekseyev commentary: "Using Modernization as a Cover"]

[Excerpts] China has recently been talking a great deal about its modernization policy. Facts show that the emphasis of the four-modernizations plan recommended by Beijing's leaders is actually on increasing China's military-economic strength and turning China into a military superpower.

The approach of the four modernizations is lopsided. Priority is being given to the development of military industries and modernization of the armed forces. For example, the present Chinese leaders are still not satisfied with the amount of funds being made available for military expenditures, which account for nearly half the national budget. They also want to make the modernization of agriculture, industry and science and technology serve the so-called modernization of national defense. This is to say that they want to use the new iron and steel plants built with loans from capitalist countries to produce tanks and artillery pieces instead of tractors and (?plows). In addition, the oil Beijing produces in new oilfields will not be supplied to the national economy, but will be used by the present leadership in Beijing to obtain loans from the West and Japan.

It is reported that the Chinese leadership has decided to postpone indefinitely the implementation of contracts signed with Japanese industries; for example, contacts under which China was to be supplied with industrial equipment for mineral exploration, equipment to produce agricultural fertilizers, metallurgical equipment and so forth. Instead, China is stepping up purchases of military equipment, with priority being given to fighter-bombers, antitank guided missiles, spy satellites and so forth.

When most of the funds are used for militarist purposes, how can anyone talk about improving the material well-being of China's working people? Moreover, no concrete task set forth in the four-modernizations plan is aimed at improving the people's standard of living. An analysis of the present Chinese leadership's policy on raising the people's material well-being convincingly shows that the policy to keep the people's standard of living at a very low level remains unchanged. The minor measures to improve the Chinese working people's material benefits are being taken in order to increase the people's enthusiasm for work, not out of a concern for the people's well-being.

PRC LEADERS CAPITULATE ON TAIWAN ISSUE

OW140551 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0730 GMT 13 Mar 79 OW

[Talk by Colonel (Fedoseyev): "Who Benefits From the 'Two Chinas' Policy?"]

[Excerpts] Although China and the United States have now established diplomatic relations, the U.S. imperialists in fact are continuing to push a "two Chinas" policy. Officially, the U.S.-Chiang bilateral defense treaty will cease to be effective this year. But does this mean that the U.S. leading clique will no longer be committed to the reactionary Chiang Kai-shek regime? No. That is definitely not the case. At the end of last December, in a memorandum to various government departments, U.S. President Carter explained the legal basis for the United States to maintain commercial, cultural, military and other ties with Taiwan after the severance of diplomatic relations.

The United States also has no intention of ending its military commitment to the Chiang Kai-shek regime. For example, the United States is giving full support to Taiwan, providing more weapons to Taiwan and expanding trade and economic relations with Taiwan. In a recent period, the Pentagon provided Taiwan with more than $500 million worth of military equipment, including rocket components and sophisticated air defense systems.

The "two Chinas" policy pursued by U.S. imperialists is much to the liking of China's leaders. In order to get close to U.S. imperialists, China's leaders are willing to give up Taiwan. For many years Beijing's top ruling clique had clamored that it was "determined" to liberate Taiwan. Today, however, after the establishment of diplomatic relations between China and the United States, China's leaders have substituted anger with gentleness and have openly taken a capitulationist stand. They no longer vow, as they did before, to "liberate Taiwan at any cost." When Deng Xiaoping visited the United States he comforted the U.S. ruling circles, indicating that the solution of the Taiwan question might take 10, 100 or 1,000 years. Brzezinski, assistant to the U.S. President for national security, said that Beijing would not take Taiwan by force because that would jeopardize its plans for close cooperation with the West, including the United States and Japan. During Deng Xiaoping's visit to the United States, he hinted to U.S. leaders that the Chinese Government would pay no attention and shut its eyes to the sale of U.S. weapons to Taiwan. According to the Pentagon's report, before 1983 Taiwan will be provided with several billion dollars worth of weapons, including jet (?fighters), rockets and spare parts. Without U.S. approval, Israel has already begun providing weapons to Taiwan. Israel is providing Taiwan with rocket components.

While in fact accepting the "two Chinas" policy, Beijing's leaders are spreading the absolute nonsense that Taiwan "eventually will return to the embrace of the motherland." Although they have sent a message to the Taiwan compatriots on the Taiwan issue, they have postponed solution of the question indefinitely--or for 1,000 years. Obviously China's leaders are totally indifferent to the fate of the 17 million people on Taiwan, just as they are indifferent to the fate of colonial Hong Kong and Macao, where millions of Chinese people are jointly oppressed by the Chinese bourgeoisie and the colonialists, who make huge profits in the process.

BREZHNEV, GIEREK DISCUSS COOPERATION, INTERNATIONAL SITUATION

LD131220 Moscow TASS in English 1206 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 13, TASS--General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev today had a meeting with First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party Edward Gierek who is in Moscow on a friendly visit.

The participants in the meeting informed each other about the results of recent activities of the two fraternal parties, about the tasks that they are now solving.

On expressing satisfaction with the development of all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and Poland, Leonid Brezhnev and Edward Gierek stressed the striving of the CPSU and the PUWP to further deepen ties along party, state and public lines, to expand cultural exchanges and cultural contacts, to strengthen friendship between the Soviet and the Polish peoples.

Much attention was given at the meeting to further increasing the effectiveness of integration measures within the framework of the CMEA and on a bilateral basis.

The rapid growth of the economic potential of the USSR and Poland in the forthcoming five-year period opens up new possibilities for joint projects of big importance for their national economies. An important role is to be played by the deepening of cooperation and specialisation in machinebuilding, the chemical and other leading branches of industry, by greater exchange of light industry products.

On studying topical questions of the international situation, Leonid Brezhnev and Edward Gierek reiterated the USSR's and Poland's firm resolve to give all the necessary support to the just cause of the Vietnamese people. The interests of universal peace require the full withdrawal of Chinese troops from the territory of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the renunciation by Beijing leaders of all encroachments on the territorial integrity and independence of Vietnam and other states. The peoples cannot tolerate the arrogation by somebody of the right to armed aggression under the pretext of "punishing" neighbors and to clear the road for its hegemonistic claims by means of fire and sword.

Leonid Brezhnev and Edward Gierek welcomed the victory of Kampuchea's revolutionary forces achieved under the leadership of the United Front of National Salvation. This victory is yet another major defeat of the Maoist doctrine of "barracks-type communism." It bears evidence of the resolve of the peoples to struggle for freedom, against any attempts to impose reactionary regimes on them.

The participants in the meeting stressed that recent developments demonstrated with new force the necessity of consistent and persistent struggle for deepening the relaxation of international tension and spreading it to the whole world. It is only along this road that reliable barriers to the war danger can be erected and favourable preconditions for the solution of conflict situations by political means created. Together with other countries of the socialist community the USSR and Poland have made and will further make their constructive contribution to the solution of these pressing tasks.

Leonid Brezhnev's meeting with Edward Gierek passed in an atmosphere of cordiality and full mutual understanding on all questions that were discussed.

## Gierek Concludes Visit, Departs

LD140853 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 14 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Edward Gierek, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee, who paid a friendly visit to Moscow at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, left for home today. At the Vnukovo Airport, decorated with the state flags of the Polish People's Republic and the Soviet Union, Gierek was seen off by Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet Presidium; Rusakov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Blatov, member of the Central Auditing Commission of the CPSU and other officials.

Amongst those seeing him off was Olszewski, ambassador of the Polish People's Republic in the USSR.

## PRAVDA CORRESPONDENTS DISCUSS BULGARIAN MACEDONIA

Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Feb p 4 WA

[Article by A. Krushinskiy and S. Tsukasov, PRAVDA special correspondents, in Blagoyevgrad-Sofia: "Where the Struma Flows"]

[Text] It takes its beginning right alongside Sofia itself and rushes to the south, tempestuously crossing the Pirin Land, irrigating its valleys and polishing the sheer walls of the ravines. The raging ways of the Struma are centuries and centuries old, but people have heard its voice in different ways.

> Take these songs, songs of anger!
> They are like the sullen howling of the whirlwind,
> They are like the noise of the sad Struma...

Those are the words written more than 100 years ago by Ivan Vasov.

Today, here in Pirin land, or as it is sometimes called, Bulgarian Macedonia, completely different associations are being born.

### The Youngest and the Ancient

Melnik and Pirin, which are separated by only a hour's drive, long constituted a paradox in this part: a city with fewer than 500 inhabitants and a village with 5,000. Since the end of last year their status has evened out: the city of Kresna has sprung up to replace Pirin.

Transformations of this type are no rarity nowadays. During the past three decades the number of cities in Bulgaria has more than doubled, and the majority of the population now lives in them. And if one can judge the Struma by shallow places along it, then the example of Kresna reveals sufficiently accurately the essence of that headlong process.

...It was a day off, and we succeeded in finding Krum Atanasov, the mayor of the new city, at home. We were led to that house by a little street lined with cottages framed in grapevines; the street had a completely rural look, but en route we passed by a square paved with marble, a railroad station, and a factory building.

"Our industry is growing rapidly," Atanasov told us. "Judge for yourselves: whereas 8 years ago the value of its output constituted only 200,000 levs, during the past year, it was 5.5 million. [paragraph continues]

It was exactly the same amount as in agriculture. And within only one year, just one industrial combine will produce clothing valued at 10 million! Incidentally, you probably won't even be able to recognize Kresna then: We'll be getting more asphalt on our streets and more greenery; stretching along the Struma will be a park, for the sake of which we will be straightening out the river bed. A large number of new buildings will rise here."

The smelters of the youngest city are fulfilling the orders for fraternal countries, and the output of the local garment workers is also being sent abroad. But, of course, in international fame Kresna cannot compete with Melnik.

...The unusual "verticality" of the landscape--the city is painted onto the steep slopes of white, green, and red shades. Neat little houses with tile roofs are like swallows' nests--one on top of another, elegant bay windows, wooden grills, little suspension bridges over the stream, the tender care, the love for this unusual piece of earth can be noticed at every step. And yet this is how Melnik was described just four decades ago: "A city of ruins, overgrown with weeds," standing before which "you feel sadness as though you were standing in front of the bed of an incurable patient, or in front of a prisoner who has been condemned to death."

Melnik has known times of wealth and brilliance. At one time it was for the Bulgarians a reliable bastion against their enemies. It was famous as a trade center and producer of wine, but, under conditions of the bourgeois system, it went into complete decline.

Under socialism, however, there are no cities without a future. And that future was determined with a consideration of Melnik's chief wealth--the material traces of history: by government order it was proclaimed a museum city. During the period of a few days one can get to know each of its inhabitants, of whom there are 417. But last year alone Melnik was visited by more than 200,000 tourists. More and more people come here to admire the fairytale landscape; to inspect the famous "bolyarska kyshta"--the oldest housing structure of all those preserved in the Balkans; to taste the reborn native wine, which is so thick that it is almost black, right there in the cave vaults, which have been famous since ancient Roman times.

Today's Melnik has devoted itself to the concerns about the "future of the past." Considerable amounts of money have been allocated for this, and restoration specialists and builders are doing their part. Recently the final operations on the tourist hotel were completed. The design for that hotel was commended for the masterful reproduction of motifs from ancient architecture. Thus, the smallest city in Bulgaria, if not in the entire world, is becoming one of the largest museums.

In the Homeland of Spartacus

The interest in the historical past, respect and love for their heroes, manifest themselves clearly in the Bulgarian national character. Monuments to the warriors against the Osman yoke, or to antifascist warriors, are encountered throughout the country. Here, in Pirin land, many of the beloved names have become part of the geography: its capital is Blagoyevgrad; there are cities Sandanski and Gotse-Delchev, the village of Khadzhidimovo, the Spartak [Spartacus] agroindustrial complex...

Yes, in the valley where the fields of this large-scale flourishing association (value of annual output, 40 million levs) spread out was the birthplace of the legendary leader of the slaves who had carried out the uprising. [paragraph continues]

That assertion is based on a new analysis of texts by Plutarch. The ancient source confirmed that Spartacus was a Thracian from the tribe of "nomadikon" (nomads). But the Thracians on the Balkan Peninsula had changed over to a settled way of life 600-700 years before Spartacus. And a specially convoked international congress of historians confirmed: A scribal error had crept into the ancient text. The text in Plutarch should be read as "a Thracian from the tribe of 'Medikon' (Medes)." That tribe used to live in the middle current of the Struma...

Near Melnik we drove by the village of Sklave, where, according to tradition, there once was a slave market. And it is possible that precisely in this village one of the prisoners sold was the one who subsequently became the menace to slave-holding Rome. A little way farther on, a mighty foundation has already been prepared for a 6 meter-high statue of Spartacus: The statue will beautify one of the main roads into Sandanski.

The person whose name was given to this city, which has become a prominent industrial and cultural center, is almost our contemporary, but legends are already being made about him. Yan Sandanski was a leader of partisans who fought for the liberation of the last Bulgarian land that remained, as late as the 20th century, under the Ottoman Empire. The name "eagle of Pirin" is the name that foklore gives to the hero who fell in the name of his future homeland. Sandanski was born near Kresna, and was buried near Melnik. On the tombstone we saw the words that served as the motto for his life: "A slave must fight for freedom, and a free man must fight for improvement."

The reunification of the Pirin land with Bulgaria after the 1912-1913 Balkan War put an end only to national anger. The movement for the social rights of the workers was headed by communists. On the days of our trip, the cities and villages were decorated with red street banners: the district party organization was getting ready to celebrate its 60th anniversary.

One of the glorious galaxy of revolutionaries whose names are heard on the banks of the Struma was the talented writer and intrepid member of the underground, Anton Popov, who also was born in these parts. After becoming a communist at the age of 19, he participated in the armed struggle against the Hitler satellites--the monarcho-fascist rulers of the Bulgaria of that day. He was executed at the age of 27. On the day of his execution by firing squad, Doncho (as his friends called him) wrote to them: "Console yourselves by knowing that I am dying for truth. Console yourselves by knowing that our ideas will be victorious."

Poet Guides Do Not Err

In his poem "Song About the Struma" Anton Popov expressed his main dream. Admiring the "terrible rumble," the "wild fury," with which the "long-maned" whirlpools "gnaw at the granite," the poet realized that that force was, as yet, ineffectual. But the time would come when it would be bridled by people and would be turned to the nation's benefit. Grieving about the "bullet-riddled breast" of his native land, and about the fields of grain "that have been completely shaken by their sufferings," he perspicaciously painted the pictures of the future: combines would start moving along the banks of the Struma, the singing of collective farmers would start to flow, the sky would be crowded with "winged motors," and "we shall become engineers and chroniclers..."

Real Poets Do Not Err.

True, we did not manage to see any combines on the fields: the season was not right. But there is a large amount of modern agricultural machinery here, and it is currently being prepared in the shops for the new season. [paragraph continues]

Incidentally, it can be said that in the Pirin land the first harvest time has begun: in the Spartak agroindustrial complex, vegetables are being raised, under glass and polyethylene film, on 12 hectares, and even more--50 hectares--are planted in hot houses in the Belasitsa complex. And the gathering in of the 1979 tomato harvest is already well under way.

The poet also proved to be correct with regard to everything else. The local Petrich folklore ensemble is famous for its singing throughout the country, as well as abroad. It is impossible to count the "winged motors" in the sky, and in these parts, near the Struma, under the complicated conditions of the mountainous land, the Bulgarians are also being aided by Soviet helicopter virtuosoes. As for the "engineers" in Blagoyevgrad we were invited to go to the branch of the University of Sofia which trains highly trained specialists. In Sandanski we were given the figure: There are 4,500 students, the exact same as the total population of the city at the time of Anton Popov. And there is also no shortage of "chroniclers": in each of the eleven cities in the district, many villages and enterprises have created museum exhibitions that reproduce the past and record all the brilliant facts of the present...

Preparing to take a trip along the Struma, we did the typical thing of getting a supply of reference literature. But on the very first day when we arrived in Blagoyevgrad, a slight misunderstanding developed. The Bulgarian guidebook indicated that this city had 21,936 inhabitants. "That's way out of date," we were corrected. "Today we already have more than 50,000." We looked at the publication date of the reference book--1959.

Of course 20 years is a long period of time, but everything had changed strikingly during that time. The same thing was repeated in other places. In the far south, in Petrich, we read, "This is a clean, well-appointed city with a hotel... It has a cotton fabrics factory, a canned goods factory, and its tobacco warehouses are expanding."

"Life has made substantial corrections in those figures," secretary of the BKP [Bulgarian Communist Party] city committee, Metodiy Rybnishki, said. "Petrich--which, prior to the revolution was famous as the 'bear's corner,' the center of malaria, the place to which political prisoners were exiled--has now become an industrial and resort city, and center of instrumentbuilding, the output of which is well know in the Soviet Union and other CEMA countries..."

The changes in the Pirin land are often called "an economic miracle." If Bulgaria as a whole is developing at headlong rates, those rates here are invariably the leading ones. That course was taken by the people's authority: After all, this land had been the most backward part of the country.

"We have built 14 large-scale machinebuilding plants that are linked chiefly with electronics and instrumentbuilding," we were told by Vladimir Sandeve, the first secretary of the BKP district committee. "These plants already produce a third of the district's entire industrial output. In the course of a single generation, the sons of impoverished peasants have become industrial workers who are well qualified and cultured--more than two-thirds of them have received secondary education. It is for good reason that here in Bulgaria people often say, 'If anyone wants to see what socialism can do, let him come to Pirin land...'"

Well, then, one ought not to be surprised at the unreliable backwardness of the guidebooks!

...It was early in the morning, when the sun was just beginning to rise out there behind the mountains above the Struma. Their dark bulk was sharply delineated against the background of the lightening sky. The dark and the light--no half-tones.

"That's what the history of the Pirin land has been like," we were told in Melnik by its oldest inhabitant--104-year-old Nikola Yankov. "Of all people, I should be the judge of that!"

The centuries have not changed the current of the Struma. But other songs can be heard on its banks. Because a new life has come here.

SOVIET, BULGARIAN MATERIAL, TECHNICAL SUPPLY OFFICIALS MEET

LD201657 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Feb 79 p 4 LD

[TASS report: "Meeting With Minister"]

[Text] On 15 February N.V. Martynov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gossnab, received Y. Mladenov, Bulgarian minister of supply and state reserves.

The state of and prospect for cooperation between the central organs of material and technical supply in the USSR and Bulgaria were examined during a talk.

'DIFFICULT START' OF EMS REVEALS CONTRADICTIONS IN EEC

ID131412 Moscow TASS in English 1350 GMT 13 Mar 79 ID

["EMS: What Lies Ahead?"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 13, TASS--The TASS commentator, Sergey Stoklitskiy, writes: The European Monetary System (EMS) begins operating today. Its present participants are the EEC countries except Britain. The plans for monetary integration of the community are already ten-odd years old. The Common Market countries spent practically all last year on concerting the EMS project, seeking to overcome all differences and hoping to "launch" it in January 1979. The decision on putting into operations EMS, however, was taken two and a half months late, only after its cosponsors, the FRG and France, following fatiguing disputes reached a compromise on the monetary and financial aspects of the Common Market agrarian policy.

The "difficult start" of EMS reflects the grim struggle between the centripetal and centrifugal forces in the community. In principle, all EEC members are interested in setting up a "stable currency zone" where one can take shelter from destructive monetary storms and dictation of the American dollar. But by no means all immediately agreed, for the sake of EMS, to accept a slowdown in the growth of the national economy, encroachment on their payments balance, renunication of an independent monetary policy. All the more so since the slack economic set-up cannot but make the Common Market members despondent: Last year, the rate of increment of industrial production was only 2.3 percent and the number of unemployed was 6.5 million. Ireland and Italy with their weak economic positions most unwillingly agreed to pay on the accounts of monetary integration and did so only under pressure from their stronger partners, the FRG and France. Britain refused to join EMS, in general.

In such a situation, the weather in the "monetary stability zone," evidently, will continue to be determined by sharp rivalry of its two leaders: The FRG and France. The former, laying claim to hegemony in "little Europe," seeks to take advantage of monetary integration to push political unification. The latter, not subscribing to the strategic plans of its rival, seeks to prevent the FRG from becoming the single leader of the Common Market.

As was to be expected, the activity of EMS will also most contradictorily affect international economic relations. On the one hand, the setting up of a monetary bloc (with the ECU as the uniform unit of account, a bloc with a big fund of some 60,000 million dollars, designed to eliminate the fluctuation of exchange rates) must strike a telling blow on the hegemony of the American dollar and speculations connected with it. On the other hand, the setting up of currency blocs leads to an intensification of protectionist trends which are already strong enough in the EEC. Meanwhile protectionism retards the development of mutually-advantageous commercial and economic contacts on the European continent. The "difficult start" of EMS and its still very vague future are striking evidence of the contradictions inherent in the very nature of integrational process in capitalism.

BRITAIN'S STAND ON EMS MADE WITH EYE TO GENERAL ELECTION

ID132136 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 13 Mar 79 ID

[Text] At a 2-day summit conference of the European Council of the Common Market the decision was made to put into effect a new European Monetary System as of 13 March. Here is a comment by our political observer Valeriy Belyanskiy:

Observers in the West have described as the one bright spot of the summit the fact that after numerous sharp debates and delays it has finally decided to put into motion the monetary mechanism of the European Economic Community. Does this mean that from now on the Common Market is to enter a new phase of monetary stability and relative independence of the dominance of the American dollar, considering the fact that is what the monetary union was designed for? Hardly anyone can say a categoric yes to this question. What many specialists agree on, though, is that the European Monetary System, the EMS, being introduced today is based on the domination of one currency--that is the West German mark, which occupies the strongest position. Consequently, this far from promises a harmony among the Common Market member nations. One of the main architects of the new monetary system, Bonn, naturally sees direct advantages from the guarantees to protect the mark which make it possible to strengthen the competitiveness of West German goods on foreign markets.

On their part the weaker Common Market countries count on getting on easy terms from the newly created European monetary fund money for maintaining the exchange rates of their own currencies. But such calculations are an illusion since neither West Germany nor the other strong partner of the Common Market, France, are inclined to spend money on modernization of the economically underdeveloped areas of Italy, Ireland or Britain.

It is these misgivings, incidentally, that must have been instrumental in London's decision not to join the monetary system. Speaking at the Paris summit, James Callaghan complained that Britain would be the biggest contributor next year to the Common Market budget even though it is the third poorest Common Market nation in terms of income per capita. Undoubtedly, by staying outside the monetary system, the British leaders would like to protect their economy from more complications due to the unfavorable position of the pound sterling as compared with the stronger currencies. I recall that although he was explaining Britain's refusal to take part in the European Monetary System before the beginning of this year, the British prime minister referred to his country's national interests. It is also doubtless, however, that the British leader had purely internal political interests in view in refraining from further integration with the Common Market, although he himself is regarded as a promarketeer.

Judging by public opinion polls, a large part of the British public believes that the growing unemployment, the rising rate of inflation and the soaring prices of foodstuffs and other goods are due to Britain's membership in the Common Market. Such sentiments are widespread not only among voters supporting the Labor Party, but within the ranks of the party itself and also in the Cabinet. Quite naturally, as elections approach, the Labor Party leaders would like to maintain the unity of their ranks and don't want to irritate the voters with another doubtful move, the more so that the opposition to the anti-inflationary policy of the government, which has already led to a considerable drop in British living standards, has seriously reduced the government's chances at the general election.

'WESTERN STRATEGISTS' PUSHING SPAIN INTO JOINING NATO

LD131646 Moscow in Spanish to Spain 2200 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

[Mikhail Kremnev commentary: "Spain in NATO's Plans"]

[Text] In Spain lately, much is being said about the country's European vocation and its aspiration to develop and strengthen relations with Latin American and African countries and with the socialist states. These statements reveal Spain's goal of adhering to a realistic foreign policy and of developing relations with a great number of countries, irrespective of their political and social systems.

This course, according to Spanish Foreign Minister Marcelino Oreja Aguirre, has contributed to the unanimous choice of Madrid as the location for the second followup meeting of the 1980 Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

At the same time, there are influential circles in Spain for which the term European vocation means participation in NATO. This subject is giving rise to heated debates. Those in favor of entry to the Atlantic bloc are using diverse arguments. Entry to NATO, they say, will include Spain in the development of Atlantic policy, will give Spain access to Western strategic information, will strengthen Spain's national defense and will lead to the attainment of an agreement on Gibraltar. The pro-Atlantic circles finally state that membership in NATO will cost Spain nothing. But what is the truth in all this?

It is known that the Washington session of the NATO Council approved arms programs, according to which the military spending of the bloc's members will have to increase by 3 percent on average annually. For Spain, a possible NATO member, this would not mean a 3 percent increase but an increase that would exceed military allocations, because NATO leaders are insisting that the Spanish Armed Forces be restructured in accordance with NATO standards. And as the CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR stresses, this means that the Spanish contributors would have to pay at least $500 million. The Spanish economy, which is going through a serious crisis, could suffer seriously as a result of this spending, the magazine CAMBIO 16 stresses. The plans of the Western strategists who are pushing Spain toward joining the NATO bloc follow determined aims. The New York TIMES has plainly stated that Spain, on joining the Atlantic community, will have to fundamentally strengthen NATO's strategic positions in the Mediterranean and the southern Atlantic. Referring to this, the Washington POST does not dismiss the possibility of placing NATO armed forces in Spain. Spanish public opinion sees a direct threat to national security in these plans.

Let us take the problem of Gibraltar. There are those who state that this problem will be resolved when the Spanish Government decides to join NATO. However, until now, this organization has not contributed to the solution of any of the contentious conflicts which have arisen in relations between its members. For example, the Greek-Turkish conflict on Cyprus has still not been resolved and the cod war between the United Kingdom and Iceland is still fresh in the mind. We could cite more examples.

Jose Miguel Bueno, member of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party Committee for Defense and International Matters, said that those who are interested in Spain's entry to NATO are not the Spanish people, but first of all the United States and West Germany who want to strengthen their positions in Western Europe at Spain's expense. On joining NATO, Bueno said, Spain will have to submit her political, economic and territorial interests to the aggressive strategy of that bloc. Those who do not connect Spain's propsects with NATO and its aggressive direction, but with the development of pan-European cooperation, think that there should be no hurry and that it is necessary to act with prudence.

MORE U.S. PRESSURE ON NATO PARTNERS TO STEP UP SPENDING

LD131544 Moscow TASS in English 1525 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Moscow, March 13, TASS--TASS news analyst Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

The New York TIMES has published an article bitterly complaining that a number of the NATO bloc member countries are refusing to follow the recommendations on an annual three percent increase in their national defense budgets.

It must be recalled that a decision on such an increase was adopted under the Pentagon's pressure at the NATO Council session in Washington last May. The newspaper quotes member of the U.S. House of Representatives L. Aspin criticising the governments of Denmark, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands and Turkey for increasing their military appropriations by less than the three percent, as was originally demanded.

The congressman is extremely exasperated by the stand of Portugal and Canada, which intend even to cut their military spending.

The course of the NATO military for stepping up military preparations, which is vigorously supported by Washington, meets, in all evidence, not with powerful protests from the public of the United States and the West European countries, but also with certain opposition from the sober-minded part of the West's political circles. Hence the complaints in the New York TIMES and increasing pressure brought to bear by the United States on its partners in the military political bloc.

It must be noted that pressure is being brought in various directions. They are assuming the form of direct calls of the White House to its allies that they honour their new military obligations, incessant repetition of the propaganda about the mythical "growth of Soviet military threat" as well as the publication of all sorts of dubious and groundless "materials" whose aim is to convince that NATO is "vulnerable," and hence it is necessary to strengthen further the bloc's "weak defense".

The report on the situation in NATO which was issued the other day by the Armed Services Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, claims that NATO's ability to defend Europe is highly dubious, and that the member countries of the bloc practically have no potential for waging a long war.

The report clearly aims at arousing totally unfounded fears. NATO, claims a similar publication of the budget bureau of the same Congress, has the major shortcomings of lacking sufficient military resources for ensuring reliable "defense".

The USA itself showing a standard of "all weather" sabre rattling appropriated nearly 130 billion dollars for military purposes in the current fiscal year and intends to increase its military budget by another 81.2 billion dollars next year. It looks like, however, that there are increasingly less volunteers in the West to follow this example and thus contribute to a further growth of the arms race, to prevent an improvement of the international political climate.

DEMONSTRATIONS AGAINST AGRARIAN POLICY IN PORTUGAL NOTED

LD132230 Moscow in Portuguese to Portugal 2100 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Demonstrations against the return of farmlands to their former big estate owners have taken place in Portugal's province of Alentejo. Over 4,500 members of farm cooperatives took part in the demonstrations. Police were deployed to break up the demonstrations. Several people were arrested.

The press notes that in Portugal the movement against the return of farmlands to the big estate owners is presently gathering strength.

COMMENT, REPORTAGE ON CARTER TRIP; EGYPTIAN-ISRAELI PEACE

## U.S. Continues To Favor Israel

ID131418 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1200 GMT 13 Mar 79 ID

[Aleksandr Timoshkin commentary: "The Failure of the Mission of the American President"]

[Text] U.S. President Carter has decided to return home. The decision was taken as a result of the failure of his mission designed to finalize the Egyptian-Israeli separate treaty. President Carter hoped to secure, at the same time, the agreements of the leaders of Egypt and Israel on the formulation of the treaty. The American President and his Egyptian colleague were both eager to distinguish themselves as heroes of peace in the Middle East.

However, these hopes were dashed, in fact. True, President Carter is trying to minimize the bitterness of his failure. He is stopping at Cairo airport today on his way to Washington. At Cairo airport he is due to meet President as-Sadat. Some people even believe that U.S. President Carter might return to occupied Jerusalem, if his meeting with the Egyptian president proved to be successful. In such event, his return to occupied Jerusalem would be to finalize the conclusion of the separate treaty.

What would such an eventual return to occupied Jerusalem mean? It would simply mean that the Egyptian president will have been subjected to further pressure to oblige him to accept the Israeli conditions for signing the treaty. Tel Aviv has recently proclaimed more than once that it has reached the limit of what it termed as concessions made to Egypt. In other words, Tel Aviv means that it will not move an inch from its position.

In light of this, attention is drawn by an AFP report to the effect that Prime Minister Begin has confided in his ministers that President Carter promised him that he [Carter] would not blame Israel for the failure of the talks if As-Sadat rejected the latest American proposals regarding a bilateral treaty. This news shows once again that Washington always protects Israel whenever it comes to the two sides participating on an equal footing in the separate talks. They are by no means on an equal footing, and Egypt cannot even hope that Washington will one day favor it more than Israel.

As far as the Egyptian president is concerned, he keenly wants to sign a separate treaty with Israel in return for various sorts of U.S. aid. But As-Sadat finds himself obliged to take into consideration the increasing active confrontation of most Arabs to his separate policies, especially those Arab states which still give him financial aid.

## Israel Satisfied

ID131654 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 13 Mar 79 ID

[Text] U.S. President Carter arrived in Cairo today from Jerusalem for quick talks at Cairo airport with Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat on the Egyptian-Israeli separate peace treaty. News agencies from occupied Jerusalem say that the Israeli leaders are satisfied with the outcome of talks with President Carter. Israeli officials say that Egypt has made significant concessions to Israel during the current stage of U.S. shuttle diplomacy. But observers in Cairo and Jerusalem generally regard the results of Carter's visit which is about to end as a new failure for U.S. Middle East policy.

## West Bank Arabs Protest

ID131806 Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 13 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Beirut, March 13, TASS--The Arab population of the occupied Jordan West Bank continues protesting against U.S. President Carter's current visit to the Middle East. Big demonstrations were held in many towns. Their participants chanted slogans in support of the Palestine Liberation Organization and against the capitulatory collusion. Clashes with Israeli military and police units took place at a number of sites. Numerous arrests were made amidst the local population and the youth.

In the town of Bayt Zirah, 10 kilometres from Ramallah, the occupiers opened fire on a student demonstration. Three people were wounded. The military governor of Ramallah issued an order barring Arab citizens from Bayt Zirah. The Israeli authorities closed all roads leading to the town.

Pupils in Nabulus called a general strike and went out into the streets. They put up barricades in a number of places. Several people were wounded in clashes with Israeli troops. Similar manifestations were held in Ramallah, Halkul, Bethlehem and other towns.

Representatives of chambers of commerce, municipal offices and councils and a number of trade union organizations on the Jordan West Bank and the Gaza Strip circulated a communique, sharply denouncing President Carter's visit and emphasizing the justice of the Palestine cause.

The communique points out that the visit by the head of the American state was a link in the chain of conspiracies against the Palestine people, which had begun with As-Sadat's so called "peace initiative" and continued with the Camp David capitulatory agreements.

## Observers Say Mission Failed

ID132020 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1700 GMT 13 Mar 79 ID

[From the "Window on the Arab World" program presented by Aleksandr Timoshkin]

[Text] U.S. President Carter left Jerusalem today for home. En route, he stopped in Cairo. At Cairo airport he had a discussion with President as-Sadat. He informed him of the essence of the long talks he had with Israeli Prime Minister Begin and other officials. Before leaving Jerusalem President Carter said that progress was made in his talks with the Israelis. The U.S. President said that differences still exist but they are very few in comparison to what they were 3 days ago and also in comparison to the progress made in the talks.

President Carter made these statements to journalists before his departure for the Egyptian capital. However, many political observers and journalists who covered the U.S. President's visit to Egypt and Israel think that Carter in actual fact has failed in his mission which, as is commonly known, adds up to the signing of the separate treaty, a treaty opposed by virtually all the Arabs.

We would point out that on Friday President Carter sent a special message to King Husayn, in which he said that the Egyptian-Israeli treaty will be the first step along the road to a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

But highly placed sources in the Jordanian capital have said that these words from Carter have not persuaded Amman, which still rejects the separate Camp David deals.

Carter Leaves Without 'Triumph'

LD132127 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1750 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Viktor Anikin]

[Text] The Near East mission of U.S. President Carter is ending. According to reports of news agencies, the U.S. President is returning home, after a stopover in Cairo, without the triumph he had expected [word indistinct] separate peace talks between Egypt and Israel. Today, he had a final meeting with Israel's Prime Minister Begin. After the meeting, an Israeli representative stated that during the talks considerable progress, according to his words, has been achieved. Representatives of the U.S. side, however, do not share this optimism. When White House Press Secretary Powell was asked whether the 6-day visit of the U.S. President to the Near East could be viewed as a failure, he answered to journalists that they themselves are able to reach a conclusion.

Israelis Not Pressured

LD132222 Moscow TASS in English 2130 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Excerpt] New York, March 13, TASS--The talks between U.S. President Carter and Israeli Prime Minister Begin ended in Jerusalem. At the talks, Begin again reaffirmed Tel Aviv's tough stand concerning the signing of a separate Israeli-Egyptian treaty and demanded further concessions from Egypt.

Although the Western press is insistently writing that United States strove for a softening of Israel's stand, Begin stated today that President Carter during the talks with Israeli leaders did not exert any pressure on them. The signing of the treaty, according to Begin, is dependent on the Egyptian President as-Sadat's readiness to consider in a favourable spirit Israel's proposals.

Today President Carter arrived in Cairo to hand over Israel's demands to As-Sadat and incline the Egyptian president into making new concessions. At the close of the talks with As-Sadat, the President of the USA left for Washington.

Carter Pressures As-Sadat

LD141136 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 2300 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Vsevolod Shishkovskiy]

[Text] U.S. President Carter has completed his tour of the Near East. On his way to Washington he stopped over in Cairo where he met Egyptian President as-Sadat. During this meeting Carter, according to an AFP report, used all the levers of pressure to persuade Egypt to conclude a separate deal with Israel. UPI reports that As-Sadat agreed to the U.S. proposals which Carter had earlier agreed on with Israeli Prime Minister Begin.

The essence of these proposals has not been stated but one thing is certain: The conclusion of a separate deal must be expected to follow as a result of fresh concessions by As-Sadat, who embarked on the road of betraying the interests of the Arab nation long ago. It is totally clear that a separate settlement will not lead to genuine peace in the Near East. Even UPI, which gave detailed coverage of Carter's Near East trip, admits this.

As-Sadat Accepts Proposals

LD132020 Moscow TASS in English 1952 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] New York, March 13, TASS--As-Sadat accepted the latest U.S. "proposals", agreed with Begin. This was reported by the ASSOCIATED PRESS.

The future of the so-called "peace treaty" now depends only on its approval by the Israeli Knesset (parliament). Its ratification by the Egyptian parliament, the agency stresses, is regarded by political news analysts as a mere formality.

According to reports from Jerusalem, Begin declared that the signing of the "peace treaty" with Egypt will take place, most probably, next week.

PEACE EFFORTS CONTINUE IN YAR-PDRY DISPUTE, U.S. ROLE HIT

Arab League Actions

LD131826 Moscow TASS in English 1643 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Baghdad, March 13, TASS--The committee for the supervision of the implementation of the resolution of the emergency session of the Arab League Council, including foreign ministers of six Arab countries--Algeria, Syria, Iraq, Kuwait, Jordan and the United Arab Emirates, as well as representatives of PLO and the League of Arab States--is continuing [words indistinct] the leaders of the Yemen Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen. The aim of the talks is peaceful settlement between the two countries after the recent armed border clashes.

As the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY reports, in the course of the talks agreement was reached on many points of difference including questions pertaining (?to the cessation) of hostilities, opening the border, resumption of telephone communication between Aden and San'a'--the capitals of both states as well as the establishment of a demilitarized border zone. A special military commission has been set up to control the ceasefire and withdrawal of troops by both sides. Agreement has also been reached on the meeting of the heads of the two states in the capital of Kuwait on March 28.

Aden, March 13, TASS--'Abd al-Fattah Isma'il, general secretary of the Yemen Socialist Party Central Committee, chairman of the Presidential Council of the Supreme People's Council of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, and 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, prime minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, received members of the committee for the supervision of implementation of the resolution of the emergency session of the Council of League of Arab States, who arrived here from San'a'.

In the course of the meeting, the situation was discussed in the south of the Arabian Peninsula. A.F. Isma'il and A.N. Muhammad highly evaluated the efforts of the Arab states for the settlement of the conflict on a basis (?of a) peace dialogue and in the interests of the Yemen people, without foreign interference. The People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, said A.F. Isma'il, firmly adheres to the commitments for the implementation of the decisions of the session of the Council of the League of Arab States. We are ready to make every effort to achieve stability and ensure the unity of the Yemen people.

Meanwhile the press and radio of the Democratic Yemen, draw attention to the inadmissibility of U.S. arms supplies to the Yemen Arab Republic as being directed at frustrating the agreement reached on the cessation of hostilities in the south of Arabia. This problem, writes the newspaper 14 OCTOBER, demands from the committee of the Arab League a serious and responsible attitude to its mission.

## Arms Supplies 'Crude Interference'

LD132120 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1638 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Washington, 13 March (TASS)--U.S. Deputy Secretary of State W. Crawford has told hearings of the House of Representatives Foreign Relations Committee that the United States intends to send American servicemen to North Yemen. At least 300 military advisers, said W. Crawford, will be training the local armed forces in handling American weapons. The mass supplies of modern weapons to North Yemen from the United States totaling around $400 million include, in particular, F-5 fighter-bombers, M-60 tanks, long-range artillery, armored carriers and other weapons.

Attention is drawn to the fact that the United States is sending weapons, military hardware and its own military "advisers" into this explosive region when talks are being conducted between the two Yemeni states with the mediation of other Arab countries on a peaceful settlement of the conflict and when concrete ways for attaining such a settlement have been mapped out. Observers view this crude U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the Arab states as an attempt to torpedo the talks and to maintain tension in the relations between North and South Yemen.

This transfer is being carried out against the background of a general build-up of an American "military presence" in the region of the Arabian Peninsula. The aircraft carrier "Constellation" and several guided missile vessels and submarines are now on course for its shores. Airplanes fitted with AWACS systems for electronic intelligence-gathering have been sent from Okinawa to Saudi Arabia.

In supplying arms to North Yemen, the United States is pursuing broader aims too-- the restoration of U.S. positions in the Near East and in the region of the Persian Gulf, shaken since the overthrow of the pro-American regime in Iran and the elimination in that country of American military bases, and the expulsion from there of American military advisers.

U.S. HAWKS SEEK GREATER MILITARY INFLUENCE IN MIDEAST

LD131728 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[From the "International Diary" program presented by Yevgeniy Grachev]

[Text] Many dispatches today are headed Near East. The visit by President Carter to Cairo and Jerusalem is the object of close attention of news agencies and political observers. In one way or another, all of the reports from news agencies about the talks which have taken place in Cairo and Tel Aviv contain two aspects. First, Washington is trying to give a new impetus to the Egyptian-Israeli talks, which have reached a dead end, and to urge final formulation of a separate deal. Second, the White House is making efforts to knock together a military bloc in the region. According to Washington's plans, Israel is to become the chief link in the chain with which the United States intend to girdle the Near and Middle East, a disobedient region which is escaping from U.S. guardianship. It is planned to bring Egypt into this bloc also; (?to this end), its present rulers have expressed the desire voluntarily to perform the functions of gendarme in the Arab world and in Africa.

Meanwhile the American hawks are calling upon the administration to adopt large-scale military measures regarding the countries of the Near East. It is a question of direct military intervention to defend the oil deposits, as they put it. From whom are the U.S. ships and Marines to defend the Arab oil? Certain hawks, such as Senator Jackson, God bless him [mir she s nim], have expressed themselves more precisely: They were forced to state that it is a matter of protecting the interests of U.S. oil and other monopolies.

Alternating appeals with threats, Jackson now champions in particular the formation of a new, fifth U.S. fleet, which would assume the functions of gendarme in the region of the Persian Gulf and a large area of the Indian Ocean. To realize this aim, the U.S. military, encouraged by the reactionaries in the U.S. Congress, is returning to the plan to create powerful bases on Diego Garcia.

Protests have come with renewed force in many countries against the intention to turn the island into an unsinkable aircraft carrier for the United States. Indian Foreign Minister Vajpayee has said that the Pentagon's intention to form a special fleet to patrol the Indian Ocean goes against the UN resolution on turning the Indian Ocean into a peace zone. Albert Rene, president of the Republic of the Seychelles Islands, has sent a memo to U.S. President Carter protesting against plans to form a special fleet.

IRANIAN DRAFT FOR KURDESTAN AUTONOMY REPORTED

LD271942 Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1400 GMT 27 Feb 79 LD

[Text] ETTALAAT of Tehran reports that after a government delegation headed by Dariush Foruhar, Iranian minister of labor, made a tour of Kurdestan the new Iranian Government prepared a draft agreement [as heard] to secure autonomy for Kurdestan.

The draft agreement envisages the allocation of the task of settling local administrative problems to provincial councils [meclis], the appointment of Kurds to senior military and civilian posts in Kurdish provinces, the teaching of the Kurdish language in addition to Persian in schools, and the implementation of a number of other measures to secure autonomy for Kurdestan.

MOSCOW TURKISH COMMENTS ON KURDISH AUTONOMY IN IRAQ

LD131634 Moscow in Turkish to Turkey 1830 GMT 11 Mar 79 LD

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Dear listeners, today is the ninth anniversary of the declaration granting the Kurds of Iraq the right to autonomy and the fifth anniversary of the law on the autonomy of Iraqi Kurdistan, approved by the Revolution Command Council. With this law, the main national rights of the Kurdish people within the framework of the Iraqi state were confirmed and Kurdistan, comprising the three northern provinces, was declared an autonomous region.

In the intervening years, the face of Iraqi Kurdistan has changed beyond recognition. The Iraqi Government has allocated 1.5 billion dinars for the economic development of the northern provinces. New sugar, cement and brick factories have been built in Arbil, Dohuk and Sulaymaniya, as well as waving and tobacco factories, plants to produce fruit preserving, vegetable processing plants and construction materials factories. Over 165 million dinars will be invested in the economy of the autonomous region this year alone.

There have been important changes in agriculture as well. Several hundred thousand donums of land were taken away from large landowners and distributed to peasants in accordance with the agricultural reform law. A donum amounts to 0.25 of a hectare. Agricultural cooperatives and collective farms have become widespread in the region. A total of 32,000 houses and a large number of hospitals, health centers and cultural establishments are operating in the 67 villages built by the administration in the rural areas. As in other parts of the country, the campaign to promote literacy is making steady progress in the northern provinces. A compulsory elementary education law is being implemented. The number of schools in the northern provinces has risen from 659 to 2,565 in the past 5 years and the number of pupils exceeds 332,500. The progressive developments in Iraqi Kurdistan are enjoying extensive support from various social circles in the country. In praising the positive policy of the government toward the Kurdish people, TARIQ ASH-SHA'B, the organ of the Iraqi Communist Party, has often stressed the necessity of strengthening the law on autonomy and carrying out new social changes to benefit the broad masses of the people.

SOVIET CORRESPONDENTS INTERVIEW IRAN'S BAZARGAN

LD132010 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Mehdi Bazargan, prime minister of the Iranian Provisional Government, received in Tehran correspondents of Soviet television and radio and answered their questions:

[Bazargan--begin recording, in Persian fading into Russian translation] First of all allow me to express my gratitude to Soviet television and radio for granting me the opportunity to speak to the great and friendly Soviet people. On behalf of the Iranian people and the government of the country, I would like to wish all Soviet people and the Government of the USSR prosperity and happiness.

The Islamic revolution in Iran pursues three main aims: To eliminate the monarchistic regime which existed in the country for 2,500 years and the achievement for Iran of genuine independence; the elimination of foreign domination and the prevention in future of foreign interference in Iranian affairs; and, finally, the establishment of an Islamic regime.

The revolution in Iran poses the task of eliminating all the remnants of absolutism suppressing democracy and personal freedom. Our revolution has put an end to oppression, repression, corruption, violence and other abominable manifestations of evil. We come out in favor of the independent development of Iran, against pressure from outside, against attempts at diktat and the imposition of alien interests on the country. Within Iran we are struggling for the triumph of the principles of justice, good, equality and fraternity, for the happiness and prosperity of the peace. [end recording]

Answering a question about the prospects for the development of relations between Iran and the Soviet Union, Mehdi Bazargan said: [begin recording]

Over the whole of its history Iran has maintained relations of friendship with its great neighbor. Now when the shadow of the former despotic regime of imperialism, colonialism and foreign interference over Iran is disappearing, favorable possibilities are being created for deepening mutual understanding and cooperation between the two countries. We are confident that fruitful cooperation will strengthen and develop for the good of the peoples of both states. [end recording]

OMANI FRONT OFFICIAL SAYS AS-SADAT TROOPS DEFEND QABUS

ID132330 Moscow TASS in English 2138 GMT 13 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Beirut, March 13, TASS--Spokesman for the People's Front for the Liberation of Oman confirmed at a press conference here that the Egyptian regime sent its troops and combat equipment to Oman for the defence of the regime of Sultan Qabus.

About seven thousand Egyptian officers and men, he said, arrived in Oman in January this year and took the positions which had been held by Iranian troops earlier. They received an order from As-Sadat to suppress the Oman national liberation movement and serve as a support of the Sultan Qabus regime.

The spokesman of the front went on to say that the United States and Britain are seeking to increase their military presence in Oman. The national patriotic forces of the country, he emphasized, firmly [word indistinct] a number of areas in Dhofar Province and intend to continue the armed struggle against the reactionary regime of Qabus and foreign military interference in the country's internal affairs.

MEZDHUNARODNAYA ZHIZN COMMENTS ON SOVIET-TURKISH FRIENDSHIP

LD131500 Moscow TASS in English 1226 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

["Results of Goodneighbourhood Policy"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 13, TASS--"The strengthening of Soviet-Turkish contacts in the period following the 25th Congress of the CPSU has been one of the testimonies to the successes of the foreign policy of the land of the Soviets, aimed at the development of equal and friendly relations with neighbouring states, irrespective of their social order," says the INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS MONTHLY. Its March issue carries an article on Soviet-Turkish contacts in the present stage. "Evidence of the further consolidation and expansion of Soviet-Turkish relations and of their weightier content, were a result of the official visit of Turkey's Premier B. Ecevit to the Soviet Union in June 1978," the monthly points out. The signing of the political document on the principles of goodneighbourly and friendly cooperation between the USSR and Turkey, as a result of the Moscow talks, essentially marks the beginning of a higher stage in the development of Soviet-Turkish relations, embracing practically all spheres of cooperation of the two neighbouring states.

"Of special meaning are the commitments of the sides thoroughly to observe the principles of the non-use of force or the threat of force in their mutual relations, and also the refusal to make available their territory for aggression and subversive actions against other countries, the INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS MONTHLY goes on to say. The document envisages cooperation of the sides within the frameworks of international organisations and conferences, extension of the mutual exchange of opinion, cooperation in deepening the process of detente and spread it to all regions of the world, and also on questions of disarmament, the struggle against imperialism, colonialism and racial discrimination. The policy, aimed at the development of friendship and goodneighbourhood benefits the peoples both of Turkey and the Soviet Union. Nevertheless, in spite of the results produced, there are broad untapped possibilities for the further strengthening the mutually-advantageous many-sided cooperation and its extension to ever more spheres. Success in the realisation of the above-mentioned possibilities largely depends on the mutual desire for the further expansion of contacts in various directions, envisaged by the political document, and in this context particular significance is acquired by the scrupulous and undeviating fulfillment of the commitments assumed by each of the sides under the provisions of this document."

GREEK PEASANTS DEMAND HIGHER PRICES, BETTER CONDITIONS

LD121626 Moscow TASS in English 1550 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Athens, March 12, TASS--Hundreds of thousands of Greek peasants took part in demonstrations and meetings which took place all over the country and which were organized by the General Federation of Agricultural Societies. The peasants are demanding that purchasing prices of farm products be raised, the pensions and medical services system be improved. The present mass action by the peasants is indicative of their determination to struggle for their vital rights against the government's agricultural policy, said S. Bayanas, the federation's president. The intensification of the Greek peasants' struggle has been brought about by the fact that the agricultural policy of the authorities does a serious damage to their interests. Thus, the cabinet refuses to raise purchasing prices of farm machinery continues to increase. [sentence as received]

According to Ioannis Boutos, minister of agriculture, such a stand (?by the government) is determined by the Common Market requirements. In this connection the democratic forces of Greece point out that the country already came to feel EEC pressure. The cabinet's policy, emphasizes the statement issued by the Communist Party of Greece, is pursued for the benefit of monopolies. This policy (?causes) perceptible damage to the interests to the country's peasants.

MORE ON UPCOMING GENERAL ELECTIONS IN RHODESIA

PRAVDA Comments

LD131648 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0350 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] In this bulletin we will acquaint you with the contents of PRAVDA's commentator's column. It is entitled "Sorties of the Racialists." The author, Valeriy Volkov, writes:

The racialist Rhodesian regime has carried out a number of raids on the territory of the frontline states recently. Hundreds of people have died and thousands have been seriously injured as a result of mass air bombing. Populated areas in Angola, Zambia and Mozambique, and camps of refugees from Zimbabwe situated in their territory, were the main target of the pirates. The provocative acts of the Salisbury authorities, committed under the pretext of pursuing partisans from the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, are a most crude violation of the sovereignty of independent states and the elementary principles of international law. The progressive African press condemns the barbaric massacre of defenseless people. The method of the aggressor and the direction of the attacks testify once again to the fact that the racialists are pursuing a criminal aim. It is clear that the assurances of Smith and his entourage about the handover of power to the African majority are given merely in order to win time.

The wave of protests on the part of the African public in connection with the aggressive sorties of the illegal racialist regime causes Smith's Western patrons not the slightest embarrassment, however. The United States and Britain have declared their intention to send observers to Rhodesia for the period of the election farce, which has been fixed for April of this year. These elections, as is well known, should be the culmination of the implementation of the Anglo-American plan for internal settlement.

However, the position of the majority of African states, as was confirmed by the latest session of the OAU Council of Ministers, which was held in Nairobi, is remote from what Western diplomacy would like. Having rejected London's and Washington's attempts to palm off the sham elections as legitimate, the majority of the participants in the OAU session called on the world public to condemn the racialists' crimes and to express solidarity with and support for the Zimbabwe Patriotic Front, which is waging a just liberation struggle.

West Pressures Smith To Resign

LD131936 Moscow in English to Africa 1630 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Reports from Salisbury say that the head of the Rhodesian racists, Smith, will be running for Parliament, which is to be elected during the so-called general elections in the country. He did that despite the pressure put on him by the Western powers to make him resign. The Western powers believe that at the present stage, Smith, who has become a symbol of colonialism and racism, could hamper the implementation of the so-called internal settlement plan. It is on that plan that the West pins its hope for recognition of the regime in Rhodesia and the legal lifting of economic sanctions introduced by the United Nations. The Zimbabwe patriotic forces point out in that connection that this is not the matter of Smith alone. It is not only Smith who should be removed from power. The whole unlawful regime should be eliminated and all government power handed over to the real representatives of the people of Zimbabwe, conducting an armed struggle for their freedom.

SOMALIA REFUSES TO ACCEPT OGADEN AS PART OF ETHIOPIA

LD121954 Moscow in Somali to Somalia 1500 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD/EA

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] The Radio Moscow correspondent has commented on a protest note sent by the Somali Government to the UN secretary general concerning its refusal to recognize the Ogaden as part of Ethiopia. The text of the commentary is as follows:

AFP has reported that the Somali Government has sent a protest note to UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim expressing its refusal to recognize the Ogaden region as part of Ethiopia. Our commentator says: Many commentators believe that the Somali regime's protest note constitutes a response to one of the articles enshrined in the friendship and cooperation treaty signed recently between Ethiopia and Kenya. In this article, both these countries call for respect for each country's integrity and respect for peace and good neighborliness. This view, shared by these two neighbors, accords with the UN and OAU charters, which state that the borders shared by the young states created after independence are not to be changed and their lands are not to be divided.

What needs to be remembered is that in many meetings the OAU heads of state have stressed the need to solve all problems among themselves, particularly border problems, in a peaceful manner and with discussions. What is clear is that any other way to solve the problems jeopardizes peace and stability in these different states. For this reason there may yet be another conflict in the Ogaden. This will certainly not be in the interests of the Somali or Ethiopian peoples or even of other peoples living in the Horn of Africa and those of the continent in general.

As you know, the boundaries created by the colonialists in Africa can create the bad feeling of claiming the land of others, and in order to avoid conflicts leading to bloodshed, African heads of state in previous meetings resolved that all present-day boundaries should remain as they were and also that all border problems be solved peacefully.

If you look at the USSR, our commentator says, it has supported and will continue to support the resolutions of the OAU on respect for territorial integrity [words indistinct]. The USSR strives for the peaceful solution of problems among independent African states and for the strengthening of good neighborliness among these states.

AAPSO DELEGATION ARRIVES IN ANGOLA FOR TALKS

LD132104 Moscow TASS in English 1952 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Luanda, March 13, TASS--A delegation of the Afro-Asian Peoples' Solidarity Organization, headed by Deputy General Secretary of the organisation Fasine Bangoura, has arrived in the capital of Angola.

As is reported by the newspaper JOURNAL DE ANGOLA today, the delegation will discuss with the Angolan leaders questions pertaining to preparations for an international conference in support of the liberation movements in the south of Africa and the "frontline" states, planned to be held in Lusaka, Zambia's capital, this year.

CONTINUED REPORTAGE ON KOSYGIN'S OFFICIAL VISIT TO INDIA

Visits In Bangalore

LD131214 Moscow TASS in English 1106 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Bangalore, March 13, TASS--Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, continuing his tour of India, today had a warm meeting with Svyatoslav Roerich, the Russian painter, who lives in Bangalore. Afterwards Aleksey Kosygin held a talk with the chief minister of the Karnataka State Government, Devaraj Urs, which was held in a friendly atmosphere.

Aleksey Kosygin and the members of his party returned to Delhi today in the afternoon.

Concludes Talks With Desai

LD131522 Moscow TASS in English 1405 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, March 13, TASS--Talks have been completed in the afternoon today between Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Morarji Desai, prime minister of the Republic of India.

In the course of the talks, which proceeded in a warm friendly atmosphere, a discussion was continued of questions pertaining to a further development and strengthening of Soviet-Indian cooperation in all fields.

In the debate on topical international issues, firm determination was expressed to make the necessary efforts for deepening the process of detente and spreading it to all parts of the world.

The sides exchanged opinions on questions of elimination of the dangerous seats of tension in various parts of the world, and, above all, in Southeast Asia. Particular attention was paid to the situation that arose as a result of the Chinese aggression against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The conviction was expressed that restoration of peace and security in that area calls for the undelayed and unconditional withdrawal of the Chinese troops beyond the historically established Chinese-Vietnamese frontier and for an end to China's aggressive actions against contiguous countries.

The sides got agreement [as received] a joint communique which will be published in the press.

Holds Discussion With Desai

LD141044 Moscow TASS in English 1006 GMT 14 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Delhi, March 14, TASS--A meeting between Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin and Prime Minister of the Republic of India Morarji Desai was held here today. During their conversation they continued the discussion of the most important aspects of the strengthening of cooperation between the two countries, as well as topical international problems of mutual interest.

The talk between Aleksey Kosygin and Morarji Desai proceeded in a warm and friendly atmosphere.

## Kosygin Speech to Parliament

LD140913 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Mar 79 Morning Edition pp 1, 4 LD

[TASS report: "On an Official Friendly Visit"]

[Text] Delhi, 9 March--A.N. Kosygin visited the Indian Parliament today. The members of Parliament and numerous guests welcomed the Soviet head of government with prolonged applause.

M. Desai and B.D. Jatti took part in the session.

A speech was delivered by M. Desai. He said: Indian-Soviet friendship is an inexhaustible source of strength for our two countries. Our relations are based on a commonality of ideas and interests, and it is from this that they draw their strength.

We are exerting and, I hope, will continue to exert joint efforts with the aim of eliminating all remnants of colonialism and racism, establishing peace throughout the world and creating a just international economic order. We welcome the process of detente in Europe and we ardently hope that, thanks to your efforts and the efforts of those with whom you are holding talks, it will soon be possible to take yet another step along the path toward eliminating the threat of world war by means of limiting strategic nuclear arms. However, while for over 30 years Europe has fortunately not known the meaning of war--although it knows the meaning of tension--the same cannot be said for other regions. Tension and conflicts occur in Africa, western Asia and Southeast Asia. We express our serious alarm concerning the causes of these conflicts and tension, which sometimes constitute a serious danger to peace throughout the world.

As the country of Mahatma Gandhi and as a nonaligned country, we reject with indignation racial discrimination, the use of violent actions to settle bilateral disputes and interference in other countries' internal affairs.

It is quite natural that in implementing our foreign policy we attach priority attention to establishing peace in our region and to relations with our neighbors based on trust. I have pleasure in saying that in the last 2 years this policy has borne fruit on our subcontinent, which is fortunately a region of peace. I would like to stress that the normalization of relations with any country does not in any way reflect perniciously on the depth and quality of our relations with other states, particularly with such a good friend as the Soviet Union.

Our cooperation with your country is by no means restricted to the international sphere. On a bilateral basis we receive technical and financial assistance in our efforts to develop the country in many spheres. Our heavy industry in particular feels the beneficial results of your assistance and technical cooperation. During your stay here, Mr Chairman, you will see for yourself the manifestation of that deep and true friendship which the Indian people nurture toward the people of the Soviet Union.

A speech was then delivered at the session by A.N. Kosygin.

After expressing thanks for the opportunity to speak in the Indian Parliament, A.N. Kosygin said: Let me take this opportunity to convey to you greetings and wishes for successes in your activity on behalf of the USSR Supreme Soviet and Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and general secretary of our Communist Party Central Committee. Leonid Ilich warmly recalls his visit to India in June 1973 and the friendly meeting which then took place with deputies of the Indian Parliament.

We have come to India, A.N. Kosygin went on to say, to continue the line taken by our countries about 30 years ago of developing good-neighborly relations and cooperation. An extremely important role in implementing this course and determining its real content is played by the parliaments of the Soviet Union and India. Through their decisions, the fundamental enactment of our interstate cooperation came into force. The parliaments' political will defines the breadth and durability of our relations and their prospects. That is why we consider it our duty to promote the expansion of ties and mutual understanding between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Indian Parliament.

The parliaments' responsibility to the peoples is extremely great. The situation in the country, its economic development, the solution of social questions and the state of relations with other countries depend to a great extent on how parliament reflects the urgent requirements of social development. All this affects in the most direct way the people's interests and the interests of various classes and strata of society. But it is obvious that no problem is of such a universal and vital nature as the problem of preserving peace. On this question too, parliament's role is particularly significant, because in this case more than any other it can act confidently as the mouthpiece of national interests. On questions of war and peace there are opportunities for the broadest pooling of efforts by all the democratic forces of society and at the same time for joint action by different countries' parliaments.

A tremendous force is inherent in this. It can successfully oppose aggressive imperialist circles, which engender the arms race, create international tension and threaten the world with a new war. It can place limits on the policy--equally dangerous to the cause of peace--of hegemonism and expansion, whose essence has been exposed as a result of Chinese aggression against Vietnam.

When an armed robber or murderer attacks someone, he is judged in every country with the full severity of the law. It cannot be otherwise. But one wonders what degree of punishment is merited by a criminal encroaching on the life of a whole people and trying to appropriate the right to use weapons against other peoples and direct their destinies at his own discretion? No peace-loving country, no honorable person should be indifferent when something of the kind is done, when the aggressor, showing flagrant scorn for human life and for world public opinion, mocks international law, the great principles of peace and independence, sovereignty and equality, and all that has become the peoples' banner in the struggle against domination and oppression, for a better life and a better future. There will be no return to the times of the colonialists. Forces have grown up in the world which will not permit it. Among these forces is India; among these forces is the Soviet Union.

Let us recall the words of Jawaharlal Nehru, that great son of India: "The world is faced with a choice: either to coexist peacefully, or not to exist at all. It is very sad to hear arguments about how we must think about how to dig ourselves more deeply into the earth and live like moles, instead of trying to avoid the nightmare which threatens us."

And it would be unforgivable not to make use of even the smallest opportunity for cooperation in the struggle against aggression, against the policy of blackmail and diktat, and for the establishment of the principles of peaceful coexistence in international relations and for the attainment of the noble aim of all mankind--lasting peace throughout the world. On behalf of the Soviet Union's Supreme Soviet, I can take full responsibility for saying that any initiative by the Indian Parliament which accords with this aim will meet with the most active support in our country.

The Soviet Union and India have different social systems. But that does not mean that we need be divided by differences in vitally important goals. Our countries and our peoples have much in common. Above all, this refers to their desire for peace--just and democratic peace based on respect for every people's rights and interests--and to the desire for progress and a better future. Our cooperation is intended to serve these goals.

The Soviet people are following with lively interest and sympathy the Indian peoples' successes in their struggle to overcome the colonial legacy and to achieve social progress. We attach due value to what has already been achieved in building a new India, and we understand that much must still be done to substantially improve the living standard of the main bulk of the population of one of the world's biggest countries.

We have never been indifferent to the destiny of the people of India--one of the cradles of human civilization and world culture. We have always shown solidarity with your struggle for freedom and independence. And the most weighty word here was uttered by our October Revolution, through its leader--Vladimir Ilich Lenin. To the extent of our capabilities, we have helped and are helping India in developing its national economy and strengthening the foundations of its economic independence. We have done all we could--and one example of this is the Tashkent meeting--to prevent a military conflagration on the Hindustani subcontinent and to lift the threat of war from peoples in that region.

Out of all this, friendship has become established between the peoples of the Soviet Union and India. As Leonid Ilich Brezhnev noted, Soviet-Indian friendship "has convincingly proved its value for our peoples and for insuring the common interests and, it can be said, security of our countries. It has also confirmed its value for the cause of peace throughout the world."

India enjoys deserved prestige as Asia's great peace-loving country. We know that even during the years of the Independence struggle India's national leaders Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru elaborated its future positive foreign policy course on the basis of the urgent need for universal peace for the country's independent national development and its security. In implementing this course India advocates peaceful coexistence and cooperation between countries with different sociopolitical systems, the relaxation of international tension, the ending of the arms race and disarmament. It has also made an important contribution to the cause of peace as one of the initiators of the nonalinement movement.

India's peace-loving foreign policy invariably enjoys understanding and support from the Soviet Union. The identity or proximity of our countries' positions on important questions of international life lies at the basis of successful Soviet-Indian cooperation in the foreign policy sphere. This cooperation has become an important factor for security in Asia and throughout the world.

We can all see that the situation in the world and in individual regions is determined by the activity of many forces, and above all by confrontation between those among them which advocate peace, freedom and the independence of peoples and those which cannot renounce the policy of diktat and the use of force in international relations. Despite all the complexities and turns in the development of events, it becomes clearer every year that a growing influence is being exerted on the international situation by the forces of peace and progress, and the trend toward the relaxation of tension is becoming increasingly strong as the main trend in world development. And in order to enshrine this trend decisively and make it irreversible, mankind must put an end to the arms race and embark on real disarmament, above all in the nuclear sphere.

The Soviet Union's foreign policy activity, which is determined by our peace program, is aimed at resolving this important task.

The ultimate aim of our efforts is general and complete disarmament. At the same time we are doing everything in our power to carry out individual steps aimed at ending the arms race and at disarmament.

The Soviet Union is prepared to reach agreement on a complete end to the further qualitative and quantitative increase in the arms and armed forces of states possessing a major military potential, and on creating conditions for subsequently reducing them. On a reciprocal basis, we agree to go as far as ceasing the production of all forms of nuclear weapons, ceasing the production of and banning all other forms of weapons of mass destruction, and renouncing the expansion of armies and the buildup of conventional arms on the part of states which are permament members of the Security Council, as well as countries linked with them by military agreements.

These and our other proposals, as well as concrete steps at talks currently being held on questions of disarmament, create a good basis for curbing the arms race and for the transition to real disarmament measures.

In order to achieve progress along the path to this goal, one thing is now required: to strictly observe at all talks the principle of equality and nondetriment to the security of the sides, and not to seek to insure military superiority over the other side by stepping up military preparations.

The Soviet Union places a high value on cooperation with friendly India in the cause of strengthening international security, averting the threat of war, ending the arms race, and disarmament.

Among the very important world problems whose resolution requires collective efforts by all countries is the problem of restructuring economic relations in the world on a democratic and just basis. The present system of such relations bears the imprint of inequality, does not accord with the requirements of world development and mainly serves the interests of big monopolies.

The developing countries' initiative aimed at establishing a new international economic order has been actively supported by socialist states. The Soviet Union has an understanding attitude toward the desires of Asians, African and Latin American countries on the extended transfer of advanced technology to them, on reforming the world monetary and credit system, on restricting the activity of international monopolies and on granting specially favorable terms to the less developed countries. Not only do we give political support to the developing states' justified demands, we also give assistance within our power in creating and strengthening the foundations of their economic independence.

The Soviet Union invariably advocates the normalization of international trade and economic ties, the elimination of all forms of discrimination for political and social reasons, and the establishment of genuinely equal, mutually advantageous relations between states with strict observance of the principle of noninterference in each other's internal affairs.

One of the main tasks of our visit to India is to discuss with Prime Minister Desai and other leading figures in the country the two countries' potential in further expanding their multifaceted cooperation in the sphere of the economy, science, technology, culture and other spheres. We are taking an important new step in strengthening Soviet-Indian ties in elaborating the long-term program for economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and India. The forthcoming signing of this program will put our cooperation on a long-term, planned footing.

This is very important for the future of our relations. The elaboration of the draft plan for the next 5-year plan period, as well as the basic directions of our economic and social development in the period up to 1990, is now under way in the Soviet Union. Thanks to the long-term program, cooperation with India will be more fully reflected in our plans. And taking into account the two countries' economic potential and their tremendous natural resources, as well as human resources totaling more than one-fifth of the world population, the scale of our cooperation could be very large. Moreover it could embrace the most diverse spheres of the economy, science and technology. We can look with confidence to the future of our cooperation.

A.N. Kosygin stressed that our country's economy is characterized above all by a constantly growing scale of production and by great dynamism. In the last five years alone, he said, in our country production potential has been created which is essentially the equivalent of the potential the Soviet Union possessed in the second half of the sixties. Last year in the USSR much more electricity was produced, oil and gas extracted, mineral fertilizers manufactured and cotton grown than in the whole world in 1950.

Describing successes in the development of the Soviet Union's economy in detail, the speaker stressed that everything that is done in the USSR in the economic sphere promotes the resolution of our main task--insuring a constant growth in the people's material and cultural living standard.

The Soviet people, A.N. Kosygin continued, have again demonstrated their firm will for creation for the sake of peace and progress at the elections to the country's Supreme Soviet which have just been held. This was a very important political campaign during which the unity of the people in building the new society, the friendship between all our country's nations and nationalities, and their devotion to the ideals of the Great October Revolution were revealed with particular force. The Communist Party, which formed a bloc with nonparty people for the elections, addressed the people with a constructive election program.

In brief, the essence of this program in the domestic policy sphere lies in insuring the all-round development of our national economy in the interests of improving the people's prosperity and insuring the further flourishing of the country's spiritual life and the improvement of socialist democracy. We see its main meaning in insuring that democracy guarantees to the fullest possible extent real opportunities for active participation by the broadest working people's masses in the management of the affairs of state and society.

In the foreign policy sphere, A.N. Kosygin stressed, the main aims of our program are to strengthen peace, develop international cooperation and rally all forces advocating peace and social progress.

Soviet voters supported these aims with great unanimity and voted for the party's policy, for Soviet power, for peace and for a bright future.

I think one can also say that Soviet people voted for friendship with India, because they see in that friendship an important result of the peace-loving policy implemented by the Soviet state.

In conclusion I would like to say that a prominent role in the development of Soviet-Indian relations belongs to contacts between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Indian Parliament. The ties between them are developing relatively actively, and you know this, because many deputies have already visited our country as members of parliamentary delegations. Last spring, at your invitation, a delegation of our country's Supreme Soviet visited India. [paragraph continues]

At the delegation members told us, thanks to the hospitality and attentiveness of their Indian colleagues they were able to familiarize themselves with the life of the Indian people, discuss important questions of our relations and agree on the further development of interparliamentary ties between the two countries.

Supreme Soviet deputies will soon be receiving an Indian parliamentary delegation in the Soviet Union, and I am confident that this trip will be successful and will serve the cause of cooperation and of further extending mutual understanding between our peoples.

Our meeting serves as further confirmation of the friendly feelings and sympathies which historically link our peoples. The Soviet-Indian talks which have begun here in Delhi will make it possible for us to find out more about the two countries' positions on fundamental questions of international life and to define further directions in developing cooperation between our countries.

Permit me to thank you once again for the opportunity to address you and to assure you that the Soviet Union will continue in every way to strengthen and develop friendship and fruitful cooperation with India.

I wish you successes in your activity, and I wish the Indian people happiness and progress.

## PRAVDA Assesses Multifacted Relations

LD131355 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[Report by special correspondents A. Maslennikov and V. Shurygin: "USSR-India: Multifaceted Ties"]

[Excerpts] The official friendly visit to India by Comrade A.N. Kosygin, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, begins today. PRAVDA's special correspondents report from the Indian capital.

Delhi--Economic relations between the Soviet Union and India are built on the principles of equality and mutual advantage. Goods which our country needs, such as tea, jute, coffee, spices, hides and others, are purchased from India out of sums from the repayment of Soviet credits. In recent years deliveries to the USSR of goods produced by Indian industry also have expanded.

For its part, India receives from the USSR machines, equipment, advanced technology and scientific knowhow enabling that country to speed up its progress along the path of industrialization, strengthening economic independence and scientific and technical progress. Soviet-Indian scientific and technical cooperation today embraces such advanced spheres as space research, the study of atmospheric structure, the improvement of long-term weather forecasting methods, seismic sounding and others.

Soviet-Indian relations in the sphere of the economy, culture, science and technology demonstrate convincingly what multifaceted and fruitful ties can link states with different social systems when their policy is inspired by the ideals of peace and the peoples' security and by a common interest in resisting the forces of aggression and war and in eliminating all forms of colonialism, when relations between them are built on the principles of mutual respect, sovereign equality and noninterference in internal affairs. These are the principles which form the basis of the Soviet-Indian peace, friendship and cooperation treaty signed in 1971, which reliably serves the interests of the Soviet Union and India and the cause of peace and security in Asia and throughout the world.

Speaking at the 25th CPSU Congress, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, said: "Close political and economic cooperation with India is our constant course. Soviet people have sympathy, and, moreover, a feeling of solidarity toward peace-loving Indian foreign policy and toward the courageous struggle of the country's progressive forces to resolve the difficult socioeconomic tasks facing them."

The policy of nonalinement and solidarity with peoples defending their freedom and independence being pursued by India reflects the will of the country's millions-strong population and enjoys understanding and support in the Soviet Union. Soviet people and the entire progressive world public think highly of the principled position occupied by the Indian Government and people on the question of the Beijing hegemonists' aggression against heroic Vietnam. The Indian Government's condemnation of Beijing's actions and the demand for the speedy withdrawal of Chinese troops from Vietnamese territory will raise India's international prestige still higher.

In the world arena the positions of the Soviet Union and India are close or coincide on such important questions of international development as ending the arms race and achieving general and complete disarmament, the nonuse of force in international relations, consolidating peace and international security, eliminating hotbeds of tension and averting nuclear war.

An important role in developing friendly relations between the USSR and India is played by the regular contacts between Soviet and Indian statesmen and reciprocal visits between the two countries' leaders. A special place among these is occupied by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev's official friendly visit to India in November 1973. This visit lifted Soviet-Indian relations to a higher, qualitatively new level.

The visit to the Soviet Union by Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai in October 1977 ended fruitfully; during the visit agreement was reached on the elaboration of a long-term program for mutually advantageous economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation.

"We are confident," Indian President Sanjiva Reddy said in a speech at a joint session of the two houses of Parliament, "that A.N. Kosygin's visit to our country will serve to further strengthen the all-round ties between India and the USSR."

The Indian capital is now preparing to ceremoniously greet the Soviet head of government. On flagpoles at the airport and in central streets in the city flutter the flags of our two countries--two countries whose friendly relations are an important stabilizing factor in the international situation.

AFGHANISTAN'S TARAKI ADDRESSES MEETING ON LAND REFORM

LD132102 Moscow TASS in English 2009 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Kabul, March 13, TASS--General Secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council and the Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Nur Mohammad Taraki, speaking at a public meeting, has stressed great significance of putting the land reform act into life. The land reform is now successfully carried out in the country's southern and northern provinces. Its aims is to eliminate the feudal relations in Afghanistan and to provide landless and land-starved peasants with plots of land. The prime minister said that the new five-year plan of economic and social development of the country was another important objective facing the party and the Government of Afghanistan. The plan has already been drafted. The five-year plan will lay a firm foundation of a new state, free from exploitation of man by man and ensuring prosperity of the toiling people.

INDOCHINA

CONTINUING REPORTAGE ON PRC INVASION OF VIETNAM

TASS 13 March Roundup

LD131728 Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

["Chinese Aggression Continuing"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 13, TASS--The criminal aggression of the Chinese military against Vietnam is continuing, and the invaders are still occupying part of the territory of the socialist country. Under the blows of the Vietnamese Armed Forces and the pressure of the world public opinion Beijing was compelled to make a hypocritical statement on withdrawal of its troops from the Vietnamese territory. But in reality the aggressor intensifies bandit actions, redeploys troops and sends reinforcements to the main strike units. The occupationists are establishing new strongpoints on the Vietnamese territory which, according to news agencies, looks like preparations for a broader aggression.

In a number of areas the Chinese troops remain on previous positions, start construction of military structures. The atrocities of the military become more intensified. Marauding is growing. Using the scorched-earth tactics the Chinese invaders exterminate civilian population, destroy industrial and agricultural enterprises thievishly take equipment out of Vietnam to China.

As is shown by facts, the Chinese are by no means in a hurry to withdraw their troops from the Vietnamese land, and Beijing uses the false statement on the withdrawal of troops to mislead the world public and to somehow undermine the worldwide powerful movement of solidarity with the heroic Vietnamese people.

Hanoi, March 13, TASS--During the whole day of March 12 the Chinese aggressor troops envigorated combat actions in a number of sections. In the Mong Cai direction the invaders, using a number of infantry regiments, made an attempt to regain hold of a springboard in the southern bank of the Tieniyen River in the Dong Mo area. But the Vietnamese Armed Forces repelled that attack and stopped the advance of Chinese troops. The enemy sustained heavy losses in manpower and equipment.

In the Lang Son direction the fighting was under way in the southern and eastern approaches to Dong Dang. Having captured the commanding features of the ground, the enemy bombarded the town. The Chinese aggressors, having violated the state frontier in a number of places in the Hau Giang direction, penetrated onto the territory of Vietnam.

In Cao Bang Province, they attacked the Tai Ho Sin and Na Bao areas. Servicemen of the Vietnamese People's Army inflicted mighty retaliatory blows on the enemy, destroyed several hundred Chinese troops.

In the Lang Son and Cao Bang directions the aggressor, having sustained heavy losses, started building fortifications on the Vietnamese territory and planting mines, covering these operations by artillery fire deep from Chinese territory. In a number of places, the Chinese continue transferring frontier marker posts deep into the Vietnamese territory.

In Ha Tuyen Province local army formations were engaged in heavy fighting against Chinese interventionists who intruded into the territory of that province in a number of sections. In the fighting the aggressors use ethnic Chinese--Huaqiao, residing in that province, and Meo tribesmen inhabiting its northeastern part.

As is reported by the VIETNAM NEWS AGENCY, in the past few days armed forces of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam put out of action in northern provinces about 1,800 Chinese troops, who were engaged in plunder and who committed crimes on Vietnamese soil.

Beijing, March 13, TASS--A report has been published here, saying that the Chinese troops "struck a powerful blow" on Vietnamese units on March 9 and 10. Thereby, the Chinese officially confirmed that contrary to their declarations on troop withdrawal they are continuing vigorous military actions on Vietnam's territory. Information has been spread simultaneously in Beijing journalist circles, with reference to that received from diplomats, that the Chinese troops will be withdrawn to the line, which is considered by Beijing to be the frontier with Vietnam and which does not coincide with the historically established frontier line between the two countries. The Chinese claims to the Vietnamese territory, as it has become known from the same sources, stretch to many dozens square kilometres.

PRC Forces Digging In

LD131728 Moscow TASS in English 1709 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

["The Strategy of Beijing Marauders"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, March 13, TASS--"Trips to the frontline zone make us conclude that the Chinese troops are trying to dig in and hold the dominant heights in the Vietnamese territory," writes IZVESTIYA correspondent Mikhail Ilinskiy from an area of hostilities in the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. Beijing strategists count on utilizing these positions at a later date for another expansion of their aggressive actions. The Chinese are digging trenches, building strongholds and bringing in artillery and tanks. In many areas of Vietnam Chinese soldiers are moving the border signs into the Vietnamese territory.

The Chinese command encourage their soldiers to engage in plunder and to commit acts of violence. Soldiers are ordered "to take with them" no less than 20 kilograms of Vietnamese property in case of withdrawal. "Vietnam is indebted to China, and we must take away from them what they owe to us," the Chinese commanders hypocritically declare. And to the tune of these predatory harangues the marauders are plundering Vietnamese soil in the border area, destroying enterprises, driving away cattle, robbing food stores and transporting Vietnamese equipment to China. Thus they plundered apathite mines in Laokay and many factories in the provinces of Lang Son and Cao Bang.

In Cao Bang Province the Vietnamese units intercepted two columns of Chinese troops moving in the direction of the Lien Lieu and Ban Dong passes. One of the columns had with it property plundered in the Na Bao commune, the correspondent continues. In the face of the Chinese aggression the Vietnamese people, who have closed ranks around their party and government, have made a powerful display of their moral and political unity. The country is confidently defending its revolutionary gains, its freedom, independence and sovereignty.

Looted Machinery Shipped to PRC

OW140122 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1230 GMT 12 Mar 79 OW

[Dispatch by station reporter (Blayunkov) from Lang Son]

[Excerpts] During recent fighting, Lang Son, the important transport and administrative center, has been under heavy artillery fire day and night. The Chinese aggressors' artillery shells destroyed the railway station, hospital and schools--including a school built not long ago with UN funds.

The Chinese aggressors also turned the civic center nursery into ruins. The nursery was also built with UN funds and opened on the occasion of the current International Children's Year. Buildings throughout the city are in complete ruin. Prior to blowing up industrial plants and power stations, the aggressors dismantled machinery and shipped it back to China. They looted hotels and used flamethrowers to destroy parks and playgrounds.

The Vietnamese people have become victims of atrocities. The aggressors destroyed houses and harmed the local people. The Chinese executioners' hands are stained with the blood of old people, women and children. An elderly man said: I witnessed atrocities with my own eyes. Even after the Chinese announced their withdrawal, they continued the massacre of peace-loving people. Our people are resolved to drive the Chinese aggressors from Vietnamese soil! We are confident that our just cause will win!

## Pham Van Dong Interviewed

LD111451 Moscow TASS in English 1605 GMT 11 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Tokyo, March 11, TASS--China's ruling circles had to make a statement about a withdrawal of their troops from Vietnam in the face of the resolute struggle of the people and the armed forces of the SRV and vigorous protests of all the peace-loving people, said Pham Van Dong, the prime minister of the SRV's Government.

The Vietnamese people and other peoples of the world, he said in an interview with the Japanese newspaper ASAHI SHIMBUN, attentively watch whether the Chinese will fully withdraw their troops from Vietnamese territory in accordance with their statement. At the same time it is necessary to keep vigilant against Beijing's threats that suggest the thought of a possible launching of new military adventures by Chinese rulers.

The prime minister emphasized that Vietnam will go to talks at deputy foreign ministers' level only if China withdraws its troops to beyond the line of the historically established border which was agreed upon in 1957-1958.

Beijing is trying to pursue the great-power hegemonistic course in the whole of Southeast Asia, Pham Van Dong said. For these purposes it had used the Pol Pot-Ieng Sary regime for unleashing war against Vietnam. The Beijing hegemonists' plans, however, substained a fiasco. The Kampuchean people overthrew the reactionary clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary. Vietnam's help in that manifested itself is a defensive counterattack in the area of the Kampuchean-Vietnamese border against Pol Pot.

The people of Kampuchea, he said, won a historic victory, and the country embarked upon the road of new development. The victory put an end to the Kampuchean-Vietnamese war unleashed by Pol Pot. The old relations of solidarity between the peoples of the two countries have been restored. The emergence of the People's Republic of Kampcuhea is one of the active factors in ensuring peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

The peoples of Vietnam and Kampuchea who have fought for a long time against colonialism and imperialism, consistently established close relations between them. The Vietnamese people continue to strengthen the solidarity. They are full of determination to devote all their energies to the cause of defence of the fatherland and mutual cooperation aimed at ensuring the life of both peoples in the conditions of prosperity and peace.

At the new stage the signed Vietnamese-Kampuchean treaty will serve as a good basis for strengthening friendship and fraternal cooperation between the two countries in various fields, the prime minister stressed.

PRC MASSING TROOPS ON LAO-PRC BORDER TO THREATEN LAOS

BK140933 Moscow in Lao to Laos 1300 GMT 13 Mar 79 BK

[Station observer Valeriy Petrov commentary]

[Text] Various news sources report that the situation in the Laos-China border areas remains complex. A large number of Chinese troops massing in the areas are engaging in many mischievous activities. Apart from the Chinese troops, a number of Meo soldiers who have undergone training in Chinese territory are carrying out many sabotage activities along the border.

Radio Moscow observer Valeriy Petrov offers the following comments:

These vicious acts committed by China are different from the undeclared war launched against the Lao people in the past by the U.S. imperialists. The (?invasion) of Vietnam, the massacre of and the plundering and sabotage activities against the Vietnamese villagers confirm that the Chinese are pursuing an imperialistic policy. The present Chinese leaders pay no heed to the principles of recently recognized international law and have trampled underfoot the principles of good-neighborliness. This reflects the Maoists' chauvinistic and expansionist policy.

Commenting on Chinese aggression against Vietnam, Soviet Premier Aleksey Kosygin said in India that only those who are not concerned about the people's interests could commit such acts.

At present, the urgent duty of all progressive forces is to protect Socialist Vietnam and prevent China from invading Laos. The governments of the Soviet Union, the SRV and other socialist countries have warned Peking against this. The LPDR Government has issued a statement on the Chinese threat to invade Laos and demanded that China halt the construction of roads in northern Laos.

All listeners might have read this statement published in SIANG PASASON. This newspaper highly appreciated the Soviet and Vietnamese assistance given to Laos. By treaty, the SRV is an ally of the LPDR. Vietnam has declared that it will do everything to fulfill its obligations stipulated in the treaty and will assist the fraternal Lao people in the same manner as it did during their national liberation struggle.

SIANG PASASON writes: With the assistance of friends, the Lao people, closely uniting around the LPRP, will defend their independence and territorial integrity.

Why is Beijing threatening the Lao people, who have never threatened anybody and who have supported the development of friendship and cooperation with neighboring countries? The answer is: The Lao Government is unswervingly pursuing a socialist policy at home and in the international arena. Laos firmly stands for the principles of nonalinement as well as the principles of safeguarding national independence and promoting close fraternal solidarity with other members of the socialist family. This has caused dissatisfaction to Beijing, which has long divorced itself from socialistm and is being poisoned by its hegemonic policy toward the peoples of other nations. This has thus driven the Beijing rulers into an utterly isolated position in the international arena.

Beijing enjoys the support of antisocialist circles. Such circles existing in the United States, Britain and Japan are prepared to send modern weapons to Peking, even at a time when Chinese bombs, grenades and bullets are heard on Vietnamese territory. As a matter of fact, such support constitutes encouragement for China in its aggressive designs against Laos.

Beijing has smuggled its agents into Laos to carry out sabotage and provocative activities against this country in the border areas. However, this [word indistinct] is a (?war book). The masses throughout the world are standing side by side with the Vietnamese and Lao peoples. This will insure victory for the just and correct struggle of the entire world's people.

CAMBODIAN STATEMENT DENOUNCES PRC AGGRESSION AGAINST SRV

LD121650 Moscow TASS in English 1629 GMT 12 Mar 79 LD

["Statement by Central Committee of the National United Front for Salvation and People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea"--TASS headline]

[Text] Phnom Penh, March 12, TASS--The Central Committee of the National United Front for Salvation and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea have issued a statement, resolutely denouncing China's war of aggression against Socialist Vietnam.

Having unleashed the war, the statement points out, Beijing insolently violated the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam, betrayed the revolutionary cause of the Chinese people and insolently challenged at the same time the forces of independence, peace and social progress in the whole world.

In Vietnam the Beijing authorities encounter an exclusively courageous resistance of the Vietnamese people, are sustaining heavy losses.

The Beijing ruling circles were compelled to announce withdrawal of their troops from the territory of Vietnam. But in reality they are continuing the aggression, perpetrating inhuman criminal deeds in northern provinces of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The Central Committee of the National United Front for Salvation and the People's Revolutionary Council of Kampuchea and the Kampuchean people as a whole fully support the appeal of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam dated March 4, 1979, and demand that the Chinese authorities should immediately and unconditionally withdraw their troops from the Vietnamese territory, that they should put an end to their aggression once and for all and respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam.

Putting into life the treaty of peace, friendship and cooperation concluded between Kampuchea and Vietnam, the People's Republic of Kampuchea is fully determined to strengthen its militant solidarity, fraternal friendship and long-term cooperation with the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

COMMENTARY SCORES HOLDING, TIMING OF U.S.-ROK MANEUVERS

LD131147 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Mar 79 p 4 LD

[D. Kosyrev commentary on REUTER report: "Irresponsible Games" under the rubric "In the Wake of a Dispatch"--first paragraph comprises REUTER report]

[Text] American troops stationed in South Korea are conducting routine military exercises jointly with the South Korean Army.

Such is the "response" to the Korean Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland [DFRF] Central Committee statement on accelerating the process of the independent and peaceful unification of the country, which proposed the renunciation of any military activity hostile to the other side.

It is known how the Pentagon views peaceful initiatives if they do not fit into its strategic plans. The current activity in South Korea confirms this once again. For example, less than 2 weeks after the publication of the DFRF Central Committee proposals the U.S. military department started to push the next portion of military appropriations for the South Korean regime through Congress ($230 million). Observers have also noted that at present 176,000 men are taking part in them. Now American Marine infantrymen have been transfered to Seoul from Okinawa, an infantry battalion from the Hawaiian Islands and missile troops from Fort Sill in Oklahoma.

In the maneuvers, called "Team Spirit," methods of interaction between the two armies--American and South Korean--in combating the DPRK Army are being worked out. And a last detail: As is known, the DFRF Central Committee proposed the halting of all hostile military activity starting from 1 March. But on this precise day--according to schedule--the American and South Korean forces started their military games.

PRC SHIPS OFF SENKAKUS PROMPT FEARS OF ADVENTURISM

LD131705 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Mar 79 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[Yu. Bandura Tokyo dispatch: "A Demonstration of Adventurism" from the "World Today" roundup of world news stories compiled by A. Maksimov]

[Text] A year has not passed since the provocation incursion of Chinese vessels into Japanese territorial waters off the Senkaku Islands and already the country is agitated by the alarming news that once again a huge flotilla of 180 Chinese "fishing vessels" armed with heavy machineguns is gathering in the immediate proximity of Japan's maritime border, near Nagasaki Prefecture.

It is as yet hard to judge what the armada's aims are. But the anxiety with which the news of the concentration of Chinese vessels is being received in Japan speaks for itself: Beijing's irresponsible adventurism, so clearly exposed by its aggression against Vietnam, makes it impossible to adopt an attitude of indifference to this development, our correspondent in Tokyo Yu. Bandura reports. The unexpected concentration of such a large number of Chinese vessels can only be regarded as confirmation of Beijing's readiness to embark on new adventures.

GEORGIAN PEOPLE'S CONTROL BODY CRITICIZES OFFICIALS

LD131557 Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 27 Feb 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report: "People's Control in Action"]

[Text] A session of the Georgian SSR People's Control Committee was held recently. The session examined the question of serious shortcomings in the fulfillment of the 25 January 1977 Georgian CP Central Committee and Georgian Council of Ministers resolution "On the State of Viticulture in the Rayons of West Georgia and Measures for its Further Development."

Other questions were also on the agenda. For instance, there was severe criticism of the leaders of Georgia's Gosgortekhnadzor committee who have slackened their supervision of work safety in the industrial sectors under its control. As a result, several accidents have occurred at some of the republic's mining enterprises. Strict administrative sanctions have been imposed on the leaders of the rayon mine engineering inspectorates guilty of slackening control. The question of the further tenure in office of A. Gamkharashvili, chairman of the Gosgorteckhnadzor committee, and G. Mikashavidze, the chief engineer, has been passed on for examination by superior organs.

Those taking part in the session also discussed the results of a check on the republic's hotel system and cases of embezzlement of construction materials at the No 3 ferro-concrete articles plant of the Georgian Ministry of Construction's Stroyindustriya trust. They also discussed negligence on the part of the leadership of the Georgian society for the blind [as published] in fulfilling the resolution of the republic's People's Control Committee on the safekeeping of socialist property at the society's production training enterprises. Corresponding resolutions were adopted on the questions examined.

E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian CP Central Committee, took part in the session of the People's Control Committee and delivered a speech.

Comrade S. Ye. Khabeishvili, member of the Georgian CP Central Committee Bureau, took part in the committee's session.

BRIEFS

KHABAROVSK WORK, REST CAMPS--The Khabarovsk Kraykom Bureau has discussed the organization of work and rest camps for senior students of general educational schools in kray kolkhozes and sovkhozes this year. It noted that 18,500 senior students rested and worked in 43 work and rest camps in the kray last summer and that they rendered considerable assistance to kolkhozes and sovkhozes in tending vegetable fields and harvesting crops. Although most kolkhozes and sovkhozes have established good conditions for students, there have been some sovkhozes that failed to prepare good camps and provided unsatisfactory nutrition. Some public education departments have failed to exercise necessary controls over the condition of political training work in camps and organization of interesting rest for senior students. The kraykom bureau has made it incumbent upon the Jewish Obkom, gorkoms, raykoms, soviet executive committees, the agricultural production administration and the kray Komsomol committee to insure good organization of students' work and rest this year and to improve political training work in camps, which will open no later than 15 June. [Khabarovsk Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 9 Mar 79 OW]

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

RADIO REPORTS AGRICULTURAL PROGRESS FOR 12-13 MARCH

LD140750 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1600 GMT on 12 March reports that sowing of spring grain crops has begun in Dzhizakskaya Oblast, where 225,000 tons of grain crops are to be produced this year.

At 1100 GMT on 13 March, the radio reports that sowing of spring crops has begun in Uzbekistan. The radio adds that the republic's farmers plan to produce 2.25 million tons of grain crops this year, which is 50,000 tons more than last year.

RSFSR AGRICULTURE MINISTER NOTES LAGS IN SPRING SOWING

LD132330 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0545 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Talk by Leonid Florentyev, RSFSR minister of agriculture--recorded]

[Summary] RSFSR grain workers gathered an average of 17.7 quintals of grain per hectare last year, which was a very unfavorable one. The gross harvest was over 136 million tons of grain, and 56.2 million tons of grain went into the state granaries, which was above the plan. The target for the sale of the most valuable, strong and hard varieties of wheat was overfulfilled. This year, the RSFSR has pledged to obtain a grain harvest of at least 17-18 quintals per hectare over the area as a whole, and 35-40 quintals per hectare and more in the most favorable areas. As before, the main stress is being laid on raising the yield of winter crops, which occupy over 19 million hectares. The winter crops are in good condition in most areas and farms. Dressing of winter crops at the roots will be carried out on at least 3 million hectares. The majority of the farms in the republic have fully provided themselves with spring grain seeds. Even now, 86 percent of seeds have been brought to sowing standard, 70 percent of which are of the first and second category. Farms of the Kuban, Stavropolskiy and Primorskiy krays, and Moskovskaya, Bryanskaya, Tulskaya, Belgorodskaya, Voronezhskaya, Kurskaya, Lipetskaya, Volgogradskaya, Kuybyshevskaya, Penzenskaya, Rostovskaya, Chelyabinskaya and Saratovskaya oblasts have prepared the seeds well: 90 percent of the seeds are even now of the first or second sowing category. "At the same time, in many kolkhozes and sovkhozes of Pskovskaya, Novgorodskaya, Kostromskaya, Kirovskaya, Vologodskaya, Kalininskaya and a number of other oblasts, a great deal of work still remains to be done to bring the seeds to a high sowing standard. We were forced this year to transport seeds to a number of disadvantaged farms from other areas for exchange and sale, and it is very important for workers of the RSFSR Ministry of Procurement and the USSR Ministry of Railways to transport the seeds as rapidly as possible. Enterprises of the Ministry of Procurement should bring the seeds to the highest sowing standards. But there is very little time left. The weeks are going by, and therefore agricultural workers are seriously alarmed by the sluggishness in this sector.

"Last year, which was very unfavorable for a number of areas regarding weather conditions, showed once again how weak the material-technical base of seed growing is in many areas and farms. Accurate conclusions should be drawn from this. A large-scale program for the construction of seed-cleaning works and centers in kolkhozes and sovkhozes, and also on an interfarm basis, has been outlined and is being implemented by us. Special measures are being taken to develop the growth of seeds for perennial grasses. The area for growing lucerne for seed, for instance, will during the current year be expanded to 300,000 hectares as against 170,000 hectares last year. Large areas for growing lucerne for seed will be allocated on irrigated lands. In brief, the strengthening of the material-technical base of seed growing should be our very first task."

Kolkhozes and sovkhozes will lay some 36 million tons of mineral fertilizers for this year's harvest. The increase in the supply of fertilizers will make it possible to provide full amounts for beets, long-stemmed flax, sunflower and other industrial and oil-producing crops, potatoes and vegetables, on irrigated and drained lands, and will provide more mineral fertilizers for grain and fodder crops.

At present the RSFSR's kolkhozes and sovkhozes are accumulating the necessary quantity of mineral fertilizers for spring, for use in dressing winter crops--this year we will be able to do that over the entire area--and to expand the application of granulated superphosphate in the seedbeds while sowing grain and other crops. This year over 40 million hectares of grain crops will be sown by this progressive method, which is considerably more than last year.

This year a great deal of plowing will be carried out in spring--last year in a number of areas of the Non-Chernozem Zone autumn plowing was not carried out, so there will be a sharp increase. Repairs of the machine and tractor fleet were organized well by Tulskaya and Kemerovskaya oblasts, and Krasnodarskiy Kray. In essence all repairs have been completed or are being completed in the Northern Caucasus. Repairs have been efficiently organized in the Non-Chernozem Zone, in Penzenskaya and Saratovskaya oblasts, Altayskiy Kray, Bashkirskaya ASSR and our other major granaries. It should however be noted that kolkhozes, sovkhozes and selkhoztekhnika organizations in many areas of Volgo-Vyatka, and in Kostromskaya and Permskaya oblasts, the Udmurtskaya ASSR and even in Kurskaya and Belgorodskaya oblasts are lagging in repairs; there is no reason at all for this to be the case for the latter ones.

Especially worrying is the lag in repairs of the K-700, 4-A and DT-75-M high-powered tractors. We know very well that this lag in the repairs of the above-mentioned tractors is basically connected with the unsatisfactory supply by industry and the USSR Goskomselkhoztekhnika of a number of spare parts of which there is an acute shortage, especially crankshafts, pistons, clutch parts and so on. The RSFSR machine operators have great complaints against the Altay motor works, which is disrupting the supply of crankshafts for DT-75-M tractors, against the Alma-Ata piston works and against a few other enterprises. It is also worrying that in many areas a considerable number of sprinkler machines and much pumping and power equipment have not yet been brought into good working order. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes have a great many complaints against selkhoztekhnika organizations due to the low quality of the repairs carried out. Repairs are suffering because of the nondelivery to agriculture of rolled metal, electrodes, plowshares and mouldboards, seeding mechanisms, cultivator shovels, and other spare parts and materials.

A total of 400,000 machine operators from among kolkhoz and sovkloz farmers are being trained at courses and at machine operators' universal education schools and at agricultural vocational-technical colleges. Some of the workers at industrial enterprises in towns and villages are also being trained as machine operators. Hundreds of thousands of tractor drivers and machine operators are improving their skills while working.

In spite of all this, there are still not enough machine operators for tractors and machines to work in two shifts and for the productive operation of equipment in Pskovskaya, Novgorodskaya, Kalininskaya, Kaluzhskaya, Ryazanskaya, Smolenskaya and Tulskaya oblasts, the Dagestanskaya ASSR and a number of other areas.

BREZHNEV SENDS GREETINGS TO CULTIVATORS OF VIRGIN LANDS

ID131938 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev has sent greetings to agricultural workers, scientists and specialists, party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol officials, all those involved in bringing the virgin and disused lands under cultivation. It says:

Dear comrades, friends: A quarter of a century ago according to the will of the party and the people, on the vast expanses of the steppes of Kazakhstan, Siberia, the Urals, the Volga area and other regions, the heroic virgin land epic was unleashed. The cultivation of 42 million hectares of virgin and disused lands, including 25 million hectares in Kazakhstan, gave a powerful impulse to the development of the productive forces of agriculture and of the whole economy.

The previously empty lands have changed unrecognizably. Thousands of well-equipped kolkhozes and sovkhozes have been created on them; new towns and settlements have been built, as well as works and factories, new scientific centers. Now the virgin lands area is one of the chief granaries of the Soviet Union. The virgin lands have entered the biography of many thousands of Soviet people as a bright page.

On the glorious anniversary, the 25th anniversary of the cultivation of the virgin and disused lands, I warmly and sincerely greet all those who participated in the cultivation of the virgin lands, agricultural workers, scientists, specialists, party, soviet, trade union and Komsomol officials.

The first virgin land settlers displayed the high moral qualities of the Soviet people. They rightly became examples of selfless service to the homeland, to the cause of communist construction. And these wonderful traditions are being multiplied by the new generations of virgin land dwellers. The virgin lands are gathering strength. Much has been done. But ahead lies an inspiring prospect. The program for the further development of agriculture drafted by the CPSU Central Committee July Plenum allocates a large role in increasing the production of grain, meat and other agricultural production to the virgin lands regions.

The virgin lands dwellers have adopted high socialist pledges for 1979. The main attention of party, soviet, and agricultural organs, heads and specialists of kolkhozes and sovkhozes, interfarm enterprises and organizations, communists and Komsomol members, all rural workers should be concentrated on the more active use of existing reserves and possibilities for all-round intensification of production, the further increase in yields, in gross harvests of grain and other agricultural crops, on the accelerated development of animal husbandry, raising the efficiency and quality of work. This is demanded by the interests of the state and the interests of all the Soviet people.

I express firm confidence that the workers of Kazakhstan, Siberia, Urals, the Volga and all virgin lands areas will struggle with even more activity and persistence to implement the decisions of the 25th party congress, the July and November CPSU Central Committee plenums, and will achieve major new successes in implementing the Leninist agrarian policy.

I wish all of you, dear comrades, good health, happiness, new labor achievements for the good of our beloved homeland.

PROGRESS-5 FREIGHT TRANSPORT SHIP DOCKS WITH SALYUT

ID141046 Moscow TASS in English 1030 GMT 14 Mar 79 ID

[Text] Moscow, March 14, TASS--The automatic freight transport ship Progress-5 docked with the orbital manned Salyut-6-Soyuz-32 complex at 10 hours 20 minutes, Moscow time, today.

The freight ship brought into the orbit fuel for the joint power unit of the Salyut-6 station, equipment, apparatuses, life-sustaining materials for the crew, materials for scientific exploration and experiments, and also mail. Among the cargoes brought there are elements and some blocks of units, designed for prophylactic and repairing-restoration measures.

After the manoeuvring in the orbit, made on command from the space control centre, the Progress-5 ship entered the zone of operation of the automatic systems of rendezvous of the ship and the Salyut-6 station which ensured the search rendezvous, approach, and link-up of the space vehicles. The approach and link-up processes were controlled by the crew of the orbital complex. The Progress-5 ship has linked up with the unit, located on the instrument compartment of the Salyut-6 station.

At all the stages of the rendezvous and link-up of the spacecraft, the communication with the crew of the orbital complex, the reception of telemetric information from board the ship Progress-5 and the station Salyut-6 was reliably ensured by means of the ground command and measuring complex including measuring stations situated in the territory of the Soviet Union and research vessels of the USSR Academy of Sciences in the world ocean.

According to the data of telemetric information and reports of the crew, the onboard systems of the station Salyut-6, the ship Soyuz-32 and the cargo ship Progress-5 are functioning normally. Cosmonauts Vladimir Lyakhov and Valeriy Ryumin feel well.

REPAIR WORK ONBOARD SALYUT PROLONGS ITS WORKING LIFE

LD131805 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 13 Mar 79 ID

["Science and Technology" program]

[Text] [Announcer] Today we have invited into our studio Vladimir Viktorovich Aksenov, Hero of the Soviet Union and pilot-cosmonaut of the USSR, to ask him to comment on the complex of prophylactic work being carried out at the moment on the Salyut-6 orbital station. This station has already been in space for about a year and a half. If we can talk about the working life of a television set, machine or car, then this term is probably also applicable in the case of such a complex technological construction as an orbital station, is it not?

[Aksenov] Naturally it is applicable, as in the case of any manufactured industrial unit. The fact of the matter is that working life is not uniform throughout. There are assemblies and units in the station which have a shorter working life, and assemblies and units with a considerably longer working life. And it should be said that the task of utilizing space technology in orbit to the full extent of its working life to full capacity, has been with us for a long time. This task is resolved at various levels, that is, in many directions.

But what we are seeing now on the Salyut-6 station is a completely new stage in our technology, not only because it can be supplied with fuel and water but also because it is capable of being overhauled. This is because the components which must be replaced--assemblies and parts of units--can also be brought to the station in the freight ships and transport ships in which the crew flies to the station.

[Question] Tell me, what is the complexity of the reactivation, assembly and prophylactic work going on at the moment?

[Answer] The fact is that assembly and repair work was also carried out on the station earlier. However, this was at the level necessary to replace ventilators and light-bulbs. What is the kind of work being done at the moment? The peculiarity of the work which Vladimir Lyadkhov and Valeriy Ryumin are carrying out at the moment is that it is qualitatively new work. They are already carrying out work involving not only the replacement of entire assemblies and units in the station, but also the control network and even network of soldered joints. And now the most ordinary assembly soldering-iron has started working on the station.

[Question] Which is a sensation!

[Answer] But it must be said that to all those who are connected with space technology this is indeed a sensation.

[Question] Why?

[Answer] Because every solder is accompanied by discharges. And so, all work in weightlessness in an enclosed space connected with discharges or the presence of chips has always been considered very dangerous, because a chip can float off, get into an opening and destroy the contacts, and all the discharges would have to be gathered up and cleaned with special filters.

[Question] I think I'm right in saying that the cosmonauts even took on board the orbital station a composite apparatus. What sort of apparatus is that?

[Answer] The basic scientific apparatus of the station, included in the basic energy network of the station, is assembled on earth. It is assembled in an assembly workshop and it is carefully checked in a control station. Now, also for the time time the installation, switching-on and testing of new apparatus will be carried out onboard an orbital space station which is already in operation.

[Question] But all this requires some kind of specific instrument. This cannot be done with the bare hands. Is there any difference between the instruments onboard the station and those we are accustomed to using on earth?

[Answer] Space instruments are a completely specific subject of conversation. They can tell a lot. The fact is that onboard the Salyut-6 station there is a very wide selection of the most diverse repair and assembly instruments. They have been especially created and their shapes and uses are especially designed for space. I am sure that any motor enthusiast or a person who does all kinds of work and repairs in the home could with pleasure use this remarkable collection of space instruments. There is everything in it: pliers, screwdrivers, special vicer, clamps and also special instruments, because there are special bolts and nuts, that is, all the fastenings which are necessary in a given place in the station.

In order to work with them one must have a special instrument. And so, all these particularities of the repair work are naturally reflected in the space instruments. For this reason the collection on board the space station at present is very diverse.

[Question] Vladimir Viktorovich, we started our conversation by saying that every technological system has its working life. Tell me, to what extent can this overhaul and prophylactic work being carried out onboard at the moment prolong the working life of Salyut-6?

[Answer] After all the work has been carried out, the working life of the station will be considerably prolonged and it will be able to function in orbit for a long time yet and insure the team's work onboard.

ANALYSIS OF ANTARCTIC 'ICE COLUMN' TO BE CARRIED OUT

LD140755 Moscow TASS in English 0806 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD

[Text] Leningrad, March 13, TASS--A 130-metre long ice column was one of the principal "trophies" of Soviet explorers who ended their summer season of Antarctic treks. It was extracted from a new research well by means of a thermal drilling facility at the Pionerskaya Station in the interior of the continent. This was announced today in a radio message to Leningrad by the men in charge of the 24 Soviet Antarctic expedition. Specialists consider that this ice column constitutes a "frozen annals" of weather and climate on the southern hemisphere for at least 2,500 years. A comprehensive analysis of the ice column, which will soon be shipped to Leningrad, is expected to yield much new in our ideas of the evolution of the Antarctic ice cupola and the chemical composition of the atmosphere. Microorganisms may well be found in the column.

BRIEFS

POWER STATIONS ON VOLGA--Leningrad, March 13, TASS--Europe's biggest string of electric power stations on the Great Russian river Volga will be completed in this five-year period (1976-1980) with the construction of the eighth station near the city of Cheboksary. Leningrad's enterprises have already started manufacturing turbine power generating sets for the station. The enterprises are closely associated with the development of power resources of the great river, which started in the 1930s. They equipped, in particular, the first Volga power plant-Ivankovskaya--with a generating capacity of 30,000 kwt. The Chemoksary station will be 50 times as powerful. Together with the stations on the Kama, Volga's main tributary, the aggregate generating capacity of the string supplying electricity to the European part of the Soviet Union will top 15 million kwt. The aggregate capacity of all Soviet power plant is now nearly 250 million kwt. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1435 GMT 13 Mar 79 LD]

MONSOON STUDY EXPEDITION--Five expeditionary vessels of the Far Eastern Hydrometeorological Service, including the flagship Akademik Korolev and the vessels Akademik Shirshov, Okean, Priliv and Priboy, have arrived in Vladivostok after completing an international experiment under the monsoon study program. The Soviet vessels conducted extensive work mainly in the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean. Most Southeast Asian countries and the United States also took part in the experiment. The expedition has obtained a great volume of observations and the Soviet scientists are currently processing the material. Within the next 25 days the group of Soviet vessels will depart for the central area of the Indian Ocean to participate in the summer monsoon study program together with other countries. [Vladivostok Domestic Service in Russian 2140 GMT 11 Mar 79 OW]